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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.



Annual Report
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1939.

RUTHERFORD CRAMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

BRIGHTON :
Pell (Brighton) Ltd., 105 Church Street, Brighton, 1.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer for the year 1939.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

ROYAL YORK BUILDINGS,

BRIGHTON, 1.

September, 1940.

To THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE :
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I submit herewith the Annual Report for 1939.

For reasons of economy and by directions from the Ministry of Health, the Report is confined to essentials, and its late appearance is due to delay in receiving vital statistics from the Registrar-General.

So much has happened, both of national and local importance, during the current year that I would emphasise that the Report deals only with conditions up to December 31st, 1939, when the war was in its early stages and when, apart from additional duties involving all the staff of the Health Department, little alteration in the normal peace-time procedure or in the number on the staff had then taken place.

In the year under review several changes occurred. Dr. Duncan Forbes concluded his long and distinguished tenure of office as Medical Officer of Health at the end of April. Many tributes have been paid to the manner in which he discharged the duties of his office, and as his successor I would add my tribute to his sound and efficient administration, which I appreciate from closer contact with the work.

During the year the work of the Health Department proceeded normally, but with additional work, very foreign to the Health services, steadily increasing. I refer to Civil Defence and Air Raid Precautions. Preparations also had to be made for the reception of evacuated women, children, and hospital patients from vulnerable areas, should the necessity arise : adaptations of buildings for First-Aid Posts and Cleansing Stations were further developed ; recruitment of personnel for the Casualty and Ambulance Services proceeded apace, and then with the declaration of war the whole of the resources of the Health Department were fully taxed in dealing with the many problems which fell on the Health and Casualty Services.

Vital Statistics.

With the increase of population due to reception of evacuees, it was anticipated that the statistics would show a big difference from previous years, and probably not on the favourable side, for, in calculating mortality rates, deaths of evacuated persons were assigned to the area of temporary residence : similarly for infant and maternal mortality rates, births occurring amongst evacuated mothers were also included. Nevertheless, in my first Annual Report it is gratifying to record that the *Infant Mortality Rate* per 1,000 live births was 45 (the second lowest rate ever recorded for Brighton—the lowest being 41 in 1932)—the rate for 1938 was 61. The *Maternal Death Rate* was 3·2 per 1,000 (3·0 for 1938). The *Death Rate* was 12·22 per 1,000 (11·00 for 1938). These statistics, under the circumstances mentioned above, may be regarded as highly satisfactory.

Notifiable Diseases.

Despite the large influx of children from other areas, the notifications of infectious disease did not show very much variation from the previous year, except for Scarlet Fever. Thus Diphtheria notifications were 66 (61), Scarlet Fever 124 (89), Enteric Fever 3 (5), Puerperal Sepsis 36 (68), the figures in brackets being the 1938 figures. In November the Ministry of Health, by Statutory Order, made Measles and Whooping Cough notifiable diseases : during the year there were 55 cases of Measles, of which 16 were notified under the new Order. There were also 685 cases of Whooping Cough, of which 11 were notified.

A study of the Table on page 8 shows that the notification of infectious diseases per 1,000 of the population of Brighton compares most favourably with the figures for England and Wales.

Housing.

During the year the Minister of Health confirmed Orders giving the Council powers to clear the remaining unhealthy dwellings scheduled in the five-year programme of 1933, and augmented by further representations of my predecessor.

The improvement of basement rooms that could be rendered habitable, and the closing of basements that could not be made habitable, continued until the outbreak of war, and considerable progress was made in this direction. Although there are still numbers of houses in the Borough scheduled by the Sanitary Inspectors for my consideration as being unfit for human habitation, it was, in my opinion, necessary that a period of, say, two years should elapse before further houses were represented, in order that the completion of the re-housing of the families in the confirmed Clearance Areas and the re-development of the various vacant sites in the Borough could be carried out.

With this in view, I had directed that the efforts of the Inspectorial staff for the next two years should be to effect improvement in the structures and to maintain in tenantable condition those houses in the Borough which, if such attention were not given, would be the slums of the future.

With the outbreak of hostilities, however, resulting in a shortage of building materials, required for essential war work, and the varied Civil Defence calls made on the staff, it has not been possible to give effect to this plan.

Licensed Premises.

The progress of the previous year was maintained, and in the majority of these premises there are now sufficient facilities for the effective cleansing of drinking glasses, whilst the number of sanitary conveniences for male and female customers and the licensee's family has been increased and in other instances considerably improved by alteration of the premises.

Reception of Evacuees.

21,916 evacuees were received in Brighton from London and Croydon under the Government Evacuation Scheme, as follows : school children and teachers, 12,739 (11,562 being children); mothers and pre-school children, 8,185; blind persons, 206; expectant mothers, 280; plus a further 506 school children who came later. Of the expectant mothers, 200 were due for confinement within a month. These figures refer to "official evacuees," the number who came by private arrangement was considerable, but figures of these cannot be given.

On the first day of evacuation, 930 hospital patients were also received from London hospitals, arriving in six ambulance trains; serious cases were distributed to local hospitals, whilst convalescing and chronic cases were distributed amongst hospitals further afield (Southlands, East Preston, Horsham, Uckfield, Lewes, Hove, etc.).

It is gratifying to report that the arrangements made for the reception and disposal of all the different categories of evacuees worked with great smoothness.

A big strain was placed on the resources for the maternity cases. The number of beds in the Maternity Unit of the Municipal Hospital and in the Sussex Maternity Hospital had been increased, and also a wing of the Warren Farm School was equipped as an Emergency Maternity Hospital. Up to December 31st, 304 women from evacuated areas were successfully delivered. I would particularly mention here my indebtedness to the officials of the Central Midwives' Board who, whenever I requested assistance, sent highly trained and very competent midwives; without this assistance we could not have coped with the work. (See also p. 17, School Medical Officer's Report.)

Civil Defence and Air Raid Precautions (Casualty Services).

This new medical service, grafted on to the Health Services, has involved, in varying degrees, all members of the Department, who at the same time have to carry out their normal duties. Preparations had been steadily proceeding for some months, but as the international situation worsened, the tempo increased, and just prior to, and for some time after, the declaration of war it meant day and night work.

Chiefly this Department is concerned with the Casualty Services. These consist of First-Aid Posts, Mobile First-Aid Posts, First-Aid Parties, Ambulances, and cars for sitting cases.

There are eight fixed First-Aid Posts established in the Borough, four in out-patient departments of hospitals, one at the School Clinic, one at Rottingdean Hall, and two at *ad hoc* buildings. Each post has a doctor, nurse, and full-time and part-time personnel trained in first-aid work, numbering 40 per post. Four Mobile First-Aid Posts have been established, manned by a doctor, nurse, 9 full-time and 10 part-time first-aiders. There are 20 full-time and 13 part-time First-Aid Parties, each party consisting of a driver of the party van and 4 men trained in first-aid work. The Ambulance Service consists of a fleet of cars fitted with stretchers, and also cars for "sitting" cases. Casualties are first attended to in the streets by the First-Aid Parties; stretcher cases are taken to Casualty Hospitals (4 in number: Royal Sussex, Municipal, Royal Alexandra, and New Sussex) either straight from the scene or after preliminary treatment at a First-Aid Post; walking cases are taken to First-Aid Posts. These First-Aid Posts (Fixed and Mobile) are equipped with instruments, dressings, etc., and minor surgical treatment can be given.

Much time and work have been expended in training the personnel in first-aid work, in ambulance driving, and in practices and exercises. The distribution of equipment for the Posts, sent by the Ministry or obtained by local purchase, was arduous work undertaken by this Department.

I must comment here on the keenness and enthusiasm of the respective Medical Officers of the First-Aid Posts—they are practitioners in the district and have given up much time and laboured hard to get their Posts into a condition of high efficiency. Likewise, similar praise must be given to the personnel, whose desire is to render of their best when the occasion arises.

Looking back on the events of a strenuous year, I must place on record my sense of deep appreciation of the loyal and enthusiastic support I have received from all sections of the Health Services. The demands made on them have been heavy, entailing long hours of work, on many occasions all through the night. These demands have been willingly met. I would also desire to record my thanks to the Heads of other Corporation Departments for valuable assistance rendered by them and their staffs. The existence of such happy relations augurs well for dealing with such tests as may lie before us.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

RUTHERFORD CRAMB,

Medical Officer of Health.

INDEX.

	PAGE
Statistical 7	
Notifications of Diseases 8	
Diphtheria, Measles, etc. 9	
The Sanatorium (admissions and discharges) 10	
Municipal Laboratory (tabular statement of work) 10	
Hospital Accommodation (voluntary and municipal) 11	
TUBERCULOSIS 12-14	
Orthopaedic Scheme 14	
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE 15-17	
Infant Life Protection 17	
Contraceptive Clinic 17	
VENEREAL DISEASE 18-19	
CLINICS FOR NERVOUS DISORDERS 19	
SANITARY ADMINISTRATION 20-24	
HOUSING 25-27	
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND SHOPS 28-30	
FOOD, ETC. 31-35	
TABLES 36-37	

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEES ON 31st DECEMBER, 1939.

Health Committee :

Chairman : ALDERMAN HONE.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(COUNCILLOR TALBOT NANSON).
ALDERMAN BURBERRY.
,, MISS HARDY.
,, HUGGETT.
,, MAJOR.
COUNCILLOR BRIGGS.
,, DUDENEY.

COUNCILLOR SIR CHARLES
GREY, BART.
,, ILLMAN.
,, REEVES.
,, MRS. RICHARDS.
,, Miss STRINGER.
,, THOMPSON.

Children's Care Sub-Committee :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR ROBBINS.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(COUNCILLOR TALBOT NANSON).
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
(COUNCILLOR TYSON).
ALDERMAN DENNE.
,, HONE.
,, HUGGETT.
COUNCILLOR BUTTON.
,, MISS CROOKENDEN.
,, GARDNER.
,, HARTNELL.

COUNCILLOR INGHAM.
,, LEAK.
,, LISTER.
,, REEVES.
,, MRS. RICHARDS.
,, Miss STRINGER.
MRS. A. G. BECKETT.
MR. G. BOSSON.
MR. G. BOX.
Miss R. E. HASTINGS.
MR. F. E. MORRIS.

Blind Persons Act Sub-Committee :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR BRIGGS.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(COUNCILLOR TALBOT NANSON).
ALDERMAN Miss HARDY.
,, HONE.
,, HUGGETT.
COUNCILLOR REEVES.
,, MRS. RICHARDS.

COUNCILLOR Miss STRINGER.
,, THOMPSON.
MR. C. CASHMAN.
MR. S. HUGHES.
Miss J. MANNALL.
MR. E. THORPE.

Municipal Hospital Sub-Committee :

Chairman : ALDERMAN MISS HARDY.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(COUNCILLOR TALBOT NANSON).
ALDERMAN HONE.
,, HUGGETT.
COUNCILLOR BRIGGS.
,, DUDENEY.

COUNCILLOR SIR CHARLES
GREY, BART.
,, ILLMAN.
,, REEVES.
,, Miss STRINGER.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

on 31st DECEMBER, 1939.

1.—MEDICAL.

- RUTHERFORD CRAMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.
A. NEVILLE COX, M.D., M.R.C.P., Tuberculosis Officer.
MISS M. F. BIGNOLD, M.B., Ch.B., Maternity and Child Welfare.
F. H. LAWSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Venereal Disease Clinic (part-time).
M. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Senior Resident, Borough Sanatorium.
G. V. GUNDERSON, M.B., Ch.B., Junior Resident, Borough Sanatorium.
R. S. SAXTON, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., Medical Officer for Civil Defence.

Municipal Hospital.

- S. J. FIRTH, M.D., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Superintendent.
 A. G. B. FENWICK, L.M.S.S.A., Senior Resident Assistant Medical Officer.
 H. PARK, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., Second Resident Assistant.
 I. G. ISAAC, M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., Third Resident Assistant.
 L. P. OWEN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Fourth Resident Assistant.
 H. J. McCURRICH, M.S., F.R.C.S., Consulting Surgeon.
 J. R. GRIFFITH, F.R.C.S., Deputy Consulting Surgeon.
 C. GUY WHORLOW, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.M.R. and E., Radiologist (part-time).
 E. V. OULTON, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., D.O.M.S., Ophthalmic Surgeon (part-time).
 Miss D. CAREW HUNT, M.D., B.S., Anaesthetist (part-time).
 L. R. JANES, M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., Pathologist (part-time).
 D. A. CROW, M.B., Ch.B., Aural Surgeon.
 J. H. TWISTON DAVIES, M.B., B.Ch., Dermatologist. } Consultants.
 Mrs. LILIAS M. JEFFRIES, M.D., B.S., Gynaecologist.

Public Vaccinators.

- J. H. VANCE, M.B., B.Ch. G. GARLAND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

District Poor Law Medical Officers.

- C. WRIGHT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. T. A. MORRISON, M.B., Ch.B.
D. L. BROWN, M.B., Ch.B. G. GARLAND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

2.—OTHERS.

- B. A. HOLMES-SIEDLE, L.D.S., R.C.S., Dental Surgeon at Municipal Hospital (part-time).
S. ALLINSON WOODHEAD, F.I.C., D.S.C., Public Analyst (part-time).
S. GOURLEY, M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Officer (part-time).
A. H. HOLT,* Chief Sanitary Inspector.
R. W. GRUTCHFIELD,* Chief Clerk.
C. E. GREENFIELD,* Superintendent of Public Abattoir and Food Inspector.
R. S. CROSS,* Inspector under Factory Act and Shops Acts.
D. E. PARKER,* Infectious Disease Inspector.
A. J. FRANKS,* A. J. TAYLOR,* A. J. MORTIMER,* J. C. FEARON,*
G. V. MARTIN,* W. H. KARSLAKE,* H. G. GIBSON,* C. A. BRACE,
R. G. CHAMBERS (called up for service in Army), K. McINTYRE,*
District Sanitary Inspectors.
P. I. HUNT, Steward, Municipal Hospital.
Miss M. F. DYKES, Matron, Municipal Hospital.
Miss M. GIBSON, Matron, Borough Sanatorium.
Misses A. E. WHYTE, F. M. LOGIE, F. E. HAYES, A. CORRELL, W. L.
ANDERSON, H. M. NIXON, Health Visitors and Infant Life Protection
Officers.
Miss A. EDDY, Health Visitor, Infant Life Protection Officer and part-time
Tuberculosis Visitor.
Miss F. L. GRAY, Tuberculosis Visitor.
Mrs. A. H. RYMAN, Miss W. M. HELLMUTH, Municipal Midwives.

* Holds Food Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

STATISTICAL.

Resident population, mid-1939—146,600.* Area—12,565 acres.

Population appropriate to the calculation of death rates—152,400.*

Number of inhabited houses Dec. 1939 (Rate Books), 42,020.

Rateable Value—£1,969,584. Penny rate=£7,607.

Marriages, 1,712.

Live Births, 2,014 { legitimate, 1,866 ; illegitimate, 148.
 } Birth rate, 13.74 per 1,000 population.

(Inward and outward transfers are allowed for in above figures.)

Still Births, 70. Males 37, females 33 ; rate per 1,000 (live and still) births 34.

Deaths, 2,271. Crude Death Rate, 14.90 per 1,000 population; areal comparability factor=.82; adjusted Death Rate, 12.22.

(Inward and outward transfers are allowed for but from 1/10/39 deaths of evacuated persons have been assigned to area of temporary residence.)

		Sepsis.	Others.	Total.
Childbirth deaths ...	Actual Number ...	2	5	7
	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births ...	0.9	2.3	3.2
Deaths of Infants ...		Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Total.
	Actual Number ...	84	10	94
Deaths of Infants ...	Rate per 1,000 live under 1 year of age	43	67	45

(For purposes of calculating infant and maternal mortality rates, births occurring amongst evacuated mothers are included.)

Deaths from Cancer, 359. Measles, -. Whooping Cough, 4. Diarrhoea
(under 2), 5.

A.—Deaths in Brighton Hospitals :—

Deaths in Brighton Hospitals :—			Residents (including evacuees.)	Non-residents.
Royal Sussex County Hospital	...	...	148	157
Royal Alexandra Hospital	...	...	23	28
Throat and Ear Hospital	...	...	—	2
Sussex Eye Hospital	...	...	—	1
Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital	...	...	13	19
New Sussex Hospital for Women	...	...	10	16
Pulmonary Tubercl	...	...	14	1
Sanatorium { Other Tubercl	...	...	1	—
Other Diseases	...	...	6	2
Brighton Municipal Hospital	...	...	676	29
Elm Grove Home	...	...	104	1

B.—Deaths of residents in outside Institutions :—

Brighton County Borough Mental Hospital	...	...	...	48
Other Mental Hospitals	...	...	...	3
Other Hospitals and Institutions	...	...	...	26

Total deaths of residents and evacuees in Institutions, 1,072 or 47 per cent.

Transferable Deaths } in Private Houses and Nursing Homes } Residents dying away from Brighton, 79.
Deaths of Visitors to Brighton, 104.

*Registrar General's estimated figure.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diseases Notified during the Year 1939.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Notification per 1,000.	Age Incidence.									No. Removed to Isolation Hospital.	No. of Deaths during the Year.	
		At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Small Pox	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	66	0·43	1·14	—	—	12	18	10	2	—	65	3
Scarlet Fever	...	124	0·81	1·89	—	—	31	56	14	1	—	53	—
Enteric Fever	...	3	0·02	0·04	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
Erysipelas	...	47	0·31	0·34	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	10	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthahnia Neonatorum	...	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	143	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	...	—	See page 12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Cause of death was premature birth.

Diphtheria.—Extent of immunisation against diphtheria.

(Method.—For children up to 11 years of age : two injections of alum precipitated toxoid—A.P.T. (0·2 and 0·5 c.c.) at an interval of three weeks. Over 11 years of age : three injections of toxoid antitoxin floccules—T.A.F. (1 c.c.) at intervals of two weeks.)

Number of children immunised :—		Brighton residents.	Evacuated children.
Under school age ...	...	140	3
School Children ...	...	94	67
At Residential Schools ...	...	8	—
Nurses at Residential Schools ...	...	8	—
Sanatorium Staff ...	...	12	—
		—	—
		262	70
Children who did not complete	...	3	7
		—	—
		259	63
		—	—
Schick tested two months after the last injection ...		214	52
Positive results ...	...	9	1
(17 did not attend for result to be ascertained.)			

Three deaths occurred from diphtheria in Brighton, giving a percentage mortality of 5·0.

36,000 units of antitoxin were given by the Health Department to four doctors for administration to five necessitous patients.

Scarlet Fever.—Of a total of 124 patients notified, 53, or 43%, were removed to hospital, none of which gave rise to return cases. One home-nursed case gave rise to infection after a period of isolation at home.

Measles.—There were 55 known cases, among whom there were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

685 cases were visited in 472 houses ; 4 deaths occurred.
For School closure see attached School Medical Report, page 13.

Home Nursing.

49 visits were made by the Queen's Nurses to 4 cases of measles and 210 visits to 20 cases of whooping cough.

Scabies and Verminous Cases.

The following were treated at the Elm Grove Home :—73 cases of scabies and 10 verminous cases, of whom 6 were cleansed under the P.H. Act.

On the outbreak of war the Municipal Hospital was enlarged by the inclusion of Elm Grove Home, and the treatment of these cases at the Home had to be discontinued. In consequence of this, and also because of the arrival of a large number of evacuated persons, the public baths at Cobden Road were taken over by the Health Department on 12th September for the treatment of scabies, and up to 31st October, 86 children and 13 adults were given 572 baths. Treatment was then transferred to the Borough Sanatorium where, up to 31st December, 164 children and 10 adults were given 493 baths.

THE SANATORIUM.

Number of Patients.	Number of Patients suffering from the following Diseases :—																Total.
	Diphtheria (including carriers).	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Measles and German Measles.	Chicken Pox.	Whooping Cough.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Tuberculosis.	Orthopaedic Cases.	Kept in after operations for Tonsils and Adenoids.	Other Diseases.		
Remaining December 31st, 1938 ...	13	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	37	7	5	2	—	1	69
Admitted in 1939 ...	124	82	5	17	7	4	5	17	3	19	165	30	8	6	155	17	664
Total number treated 1939 ...	137	85	5	17	8	4	5	17	3	19	202	37	13	8	155	18	733
Discharged in 1939 ...	105	76	4	14	8	4	4	15	3	18	139*	27	8	7	155	17	604
Died in 1939 ...	4	—	1	1	—	—	1*	—	—	1	15	1	—	—	—	—	24
Remaining December 31st, 1939 ...	28	9	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	48	9	5	1	—	1	105
Total Weeks ...	638	393	33	43	30	41	19	38	8	55	2280	470	148	153	24	35	4408
Average stay in weeks ...	5.5	5.0	6.6	2.7	5.0	10.3	3.8	2.4	2.7	3.0	14	16	19	22	1 day	2.1	6.8

*Cause of death was premature birth.

Of the admissions, 1 case of diphtheria and 7 of other diseases belonged to the Sanatorium Staff ; 1 case of diphtheria, 1 of scarlet fever, 1 of erysipelas, 3 of measles and german measles, and 1 of other diseases were admitted from military establishments ; 18 cases of diphtheria, 13 of scarlet fever, 2 of puerperal pyrexia, 12 of whooping cough, 30 of pulmonary tuberculosis, 1 tuberculosis orthopaedic case, and 5 of other diseases were persons received from Evacuation areas.

Sixteen patients suffering from diphtheria, 21 from scarlet fever, 1 from enteric fever, 2 from erysipelas, 2 from puerperal pyrexia, 2 from measles or german measles, 1 from whooping cough, and 2 from infantile paralysis were admitted from districts outside Brighton.

LABORATORY REPORT.

																	No
<i>Swabs sent by :—</i>																	Total.
General Practitioners ...	...	...	...	...	...	64	892	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	956
Hospitals ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	74	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	74
Medical Officer of Health ...	...	...	...	...	...	26	300	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	326
School Medical Officer ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
<i>Sanatorium Swabs :—</i>																	
Admission Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	66	120	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	186
Convalescent Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	217	777	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	994
Admission Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	103	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	104
Convalescent Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37
<i>Sputa sent by :—</i>																	
General Practitioners ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	216	—	—	—	—	—	244
Hospitals ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	132	—	—	—	—	—	152
Tuberculosis Clinic ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	154	—	—	—	—	—	176
Sanatorium ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	179	173	—	—	—	—	—	352
<i>Blood Specimens, Widal's Reaction :—*</i>										Positive.	Negative.						Total.
From Borough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
From Sanatorium ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	4

Bacteriological Examinations of Sources of Water Supply :—

Falmer, 22 ; Goldstone, 13 ; Mile Oak, 22 ; Patcham, 22 ; Shoreham, 9 ; Balsdean, 9.

Other Bacteriological Examinations of Waters :—31.

Total number of examinations for year :—3,761.

*Includes bacillus typhosus, Para A, B, and the bacillus abortus ; all of the 5 specimens tested for bacillus abortus proved negative.

POOR LAW OUT-RELIEF.

The amount of out-relief administered for the year in the County Borough was £50,620.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Name of Hospital.	NUMBER OF BEDS.				No. of In-patients treated in 1939.	OUT-PATIENTS, 1939.			
	Surgical M. F.	Medical M. F.	Gynaeco-logical.	Total		No. of patients (excluding V.D. patients, see p. 18)	No. of Attendances		
(a) Voluntary									
Royal Sussex County Hospital	148 Children 17	122 Children 9	51 either sex	37 26	11 10 Isolation	395	4317	20866	140085
Royal Alexandra Hospital (for children)	15 Infants either sex	17 26	15 Isolation	18 10	—	101	1385	2609	20749
New Sussex Hospital for Women ...	49 Private Wards (S.&M.)	15 13	—	—	—	84	1006	4445	24983
Sussex Eye Hospital	8 Children	8 (S. & M.)	—	6	—	48	662	5951	16955
Throat and Ear Hospital	32	—	—	—	—	32	1240	2202	7023
*Sussex Maternity Hospital (excluding Hove Branch) ...	44 Maternity 6 Isolation	—	—	—	—	50	Maternity 626 Gynaecological 108	1582	4527
(b) Municipal									
\$The Municipal Hospital ...	Men 317	Women 316	Children 40	673	5178 admissions.	1234	2926		
†The Fever Hospital		169		169	578†	—	—		
The Smallpox Hospital		14		14	—	—	—		

* Beds reserved for Brighton midwifery patients.

† Sanatorium included in Fever Hospital, 81 beds being reserved for tuberculosis of all forms.

‡ Excluding patients kept in after operations for tonsils and adenoids.

§ This hospital was extended on the outbreak of war by the inclusion of Elm Grove Home ; the beds added up to 31/12/1939 are included.

NOTE.—The additional beds set up on the outbreak of war at the Royal Sussex County, the New Sussex, and the Sussex Maternity Hospitals are included in the above table.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The tables below give statistics of Tuberculosis for 1939.

	Number of deaths.	Rate per 100,000.	Number of new cases.	New cases per 100,000 of population.	Number of re-notifi- cations.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	84	55·12	173	113·52	23
Other forms Tuberculosis	18	11·81	51	33·46	2
All forms Tuberculosis	102	66·93	224	146·98	25

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Other		Pulmonary		Other	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1	2	—	—	—	2	—
1- 4	5	5	—	—	2	2
5- 9	1	4	9	—	—	—
10-14	1	2	5	4	1	—
15-19	3	9	2	1	3	1
20-24	12	12	1	2	5	—
25-34	16	24	—	3	13	1
35-44	21	18	—	7	8	1
45-54	19	6	—	2	14	5
55-64	15	4	1	1	10	3
65 and upwards	5	2	3	—	5	1
Totals	95	78	23	28	43	41
							10	8

Forty-four of the total of 102 deaths occurred in hospitals, of which 19 were in the Municipal Hospital and 15 in the Sanatorium. In the case of 16 deaths the patients had not been notified during life; the ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths was therefore 16 to 102. When a non-notified case is brought to notice a letter is sent to the practitioner in attendance to ask for an explanation. In most cases the patient is thought to have been notified earlier, and no further action is considered necessary. In a few cases tuberculosis, unsuspected during life, has been found by post-mortem examination.

No action was found to be necessary under the Tuberculosis Regulations of 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

MUNICIPAL CHEST CLINIC.

Some particulars of the work carried out at the Clinic :—

Examinations by the Tuberculosis Officer :—

New cases examined	...	...	...	...	495	(423)
Old cases re-examined	...	...	...	...	1625	(1577)
X-ray examinations (includes 280 screenings)					671	(479)
Larynx examinations	...	...	...	...	74	(74)
Subcutaneous injections tuberculin	...	...	...	...	187	(261)
Intravenous injections (calcium and gold salts)					112	(204)

(Figures in brackets are those for the year 1938).

X-Ray Examinations at Sanatorium.

Radiograms taken :—

In-patients, 487; Out-patients, 188 ; Staff, 12 ; East Sussex patients, 58.
Total X-ray examinations, 745 (includes 224 screenings).

Treatment by Artificial Pneumothorax.

The aim of this treatment is to rest the affected part of the lung and, in suitable cases, it has proved to be of real and lasting benefit. It involves repeated refills over a prolonged period. 468 refills were given at the Clinic and 28 at the Sanatorium. (These figures refer only to out-patients.)

Of the 33 out-patients at present attending for this treatment, 22 are at work and maintaining themselves, 8 are working as housewives, and 3 others are fit for work but unemployed.

Chest Surgery.

Under this scheme, Mr. R. C. Brock, F.R.C.S., made four visits during the year, and Mr. O. S. Tubbs, F.R.C.S., one visit.

Operations performed :—

Phrenic evulsion	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Phrenic crushing	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Thoracoscopy	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

In addition, two patients were transferred to Brompton Hospital for major operations.

Artificial Light Treatment.

Artificial light treatment for out-patients was, as in former years, carried out by Miss Palmer, at 52 Old Steine.

One man, 4 women, and 3 children received treatment during the year ; the man made 86, the women 303, and the children 40 attendances.

Dental Treatment.

One of the School Dentists visits the Sanatorium each week and attends to the patients' teeth.

Voluntary Assistance.

We have continued to receive most valuable help at the Clinic from Miss Bayliss, of the St. John's Ambulance Association, and also from the Queen's Nurses.

AFTER CARE.

Home Nursing by Queen's Nurses :—

3,528 visits were made to 48 Pulmonary Tuberculosis patients.

1,578 visits were made to 15 Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis patients.

Total, 5,106 visits to 63 patients.

Sheets and blankets were lent to two patients.

During the year 2 open-air shelters were provided and are still in use.

Assistance from the Hedgcock Bequest.

					£ s. d.
Milk	...	...	...	...	361 16 4
Assistance towards cost of living	...	...	...	...	35 19 0
Help whilst head of family in Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	75 10 0
Nursing and care	...	...	...	...	13 5 11
Better housing by assistance with rent	...	...	...	...	130 5 10
Removal expenses	...	...	...	...	1 10 0
Provision of boots and/or clothing	...	...	...	...	15 11 9
Boarding out of children	...	...	...	...	1 3 6
Maintenance in Hospitals and Homes	...	...	...	...	46 12 0
Provision of dentures	...	...	...	...	4 0 0
Sanatorium Workshop (materials only)	...	...	...	...	27 6 10
					<hr/>
					713 1 2
<i>Less contributions received towards hospital treatment</i>					1 2 6
					<hr/>
					£711 18 8
					<hr/>

ORTHOPAEDIC SCHEME.

	Attendances at Clinic.			Treatment in Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital.	
	For treatment.	To see Surgeon.	For observation.	No. of patients.	No. of weeks spent in hospital.
Tuberculosis cases ...	81	57	72	2	206
Infant Welfare cases	881	102	92	6	338
Education Committee cases	1507	188	128	7	289
Others	398	32	22	2	24
School children from Evacuation areas	39	—	6	—	—
Infant Welfare cases from Evacuation areas	19	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2925	379	320	17	857

In addition, tuberculosis cases spent 470 weeks, infantile paralysis cases 148 weeks, other cases 153 weeks in the orthopaedic wards of the Borough Sanatorium (see page 10).

(Also see page 8 of the School Medical Report attached.)

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The total net live births registered numbered 2,014, of which 1,026 were males and 988 females. Included in the total are 148 illegitimate births. The infant mortality was 45 per thousand : (for notifications of births see page 36).

MIDWIFERY.

Domiciliary.—Two municipal midwives are employed ; they attended 151 midwifery and 20 maternity cases. There were ten midwives in private practice (two of whom practise only in nursing homes) ; they attended 99 midwifery and 171 maternity cases, but five of them only took 19 cases between them and one retired with compensation under the Midwives Act, 1936. Six midwives employed by three outlying nursing associations attended 102 midwifery and 43 maternity cases. The Sussex Maternity Hospital employed seven midwives for district work in Brighton ; they attended 401 cases. In addition, 41 maternity cases were attended by the Queen's Nurses Association.

Medical help was called in on 203 occasions, of which 62 were on account of the infants' condition ; thirteen other notifications were made by midwives. £84/1/0 was paid by the Council to doctors called in on 71 occasions, of which £45/9/0 was recovered from patients.

Hospital.—The Municipal Hospital normally employs six midwives, but the staff was temporarily augmented owing to the Evacuation Scheme. The number of beds before the emergency was 45, but was increased to 71 ; the cases numbered 942, of whom 211 were women from evacuated areas. The Albion Hill Homes employ three midwives ; the cases numbered 27. The Sussex Maternity Hospital employed ten midwives, which number was also temporarily increased. The number of beds was increased from 31 to 44 ; the cases numbered 626, of whom 93 were women from evacuated areas. Under agreement, 60 abnormal Brighton cases were admitted, for which the Council paid the hospital 9/- a day ; the total cost was £461/14/0, of which £169/18/6 was recovered from patients and the Sussex Provident Scheme.

On 1st October, 1938, the Municipal and Sussex Maternity Hospitals, under agreement, combined to form a Joint Training School for midwives. Pupils receive training in the wards of both hospitals and domiciliary training with district midwives of the Sussex Maternity Hospital. During 1939, 25 pupils obtained the certificate of the Central Midwives Board.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

At the M. and C.W. Clinic, Sussex Street, 452 Brighton ante-natal cases made 1,847 attendances and 11 post-natal cases were seen. In addition, 339 ante-natal cases from Evacuation areas made 894 attendances, but of these 113 returned home before confinement.

At the Municipal Hospital, 972 ante-natal and 185 post-natal cases attended. Thirty-nine of these had previously been seen at the M. and C.W. Clinic.

At the Sussex Maternity Hospital, 840 ante-natal and 510 post-natal cases attended.

HOME VISITS.

Of infants born during 1939 there were visited	...	...	...	1684
Average number of visits paid to each infant	...	...	...	4
No. of children of ages 1—5 visited	...	...	...	4757
Total inquiries <i>re</i> children 1—5	...	...	...	8956
No. of expectant mothers visited	...	...	...	310
Visits for investigation <i>re</i> cause of stillbirths	...	...	...	52
Visits for investigation <i>re</i> premature deaths	...	...	...	37
Visits in connection with vaccination	...	...	...	318
Other visits	...	...	...	594
Total visits paid by Health Visitors during 1939	...	...	...	17828
(Excluding visits to foster children.)				

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Attendance table for the seven centres (each opens once weekly).

	Number.	Attend- ances.	Average attendance	
			per person	per session
Mothers ...	3013	23599	8	67
0-12 months ...	1866 (274)	17353 (706)	9	
1-5 years ...	1518 (290)	10491 (470)	6	82

Figures in brackets denote children from Evacuation areas not included in other total.

In addition, two special centres for evacuees were opened, at which 117 children under 1 year made 283 attendances and 320 over 1 year made 786 attendances.

DENTAL CLINIC.

Expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years are referred to this Clinic from the Ante-natal Clinic and Infant Welfare Centres. 79 per cent. of the patients sent for kept their appointments.

During the year, 1,465 attendances were made by 223 Brighton and 12 "Evacuee" mothers and 183 Brighton and 30 "Evacuee" children under five years of age, on 197 sessions.

Summary of the work done :—

	Fillings.	EXTRACTIONS.		Scaling.	Other oper- ations.	DENTURES.		Repairs and ad- ditions.
		Nitrous oxide.	Local Anaes- thetic.			Partial.	Com- plete.	
Mothers	98	38	1223	229	761	26	107	8
Children under 5	114	11	138	6	207	—	—	—

EDUCATION.

Students.—Fifty-two student teachers from the Municipal Training College attended Infant Welfare Centres twice and 17 pupil midwives attended five times. Eleven lectures were given by the Infant Welfare Doctor to pupils training at the Joint Training School for midwives.

Health Visitors gave demonstrations on the feeding and care of babies to girls about to leave schools :

Elementary schools	...	...	26	demonstrations to 435 girls.
Intermediate School	...	...	2	„ „ 50 „
Technical College	...	...	1	„ „ 18 „
Croydon evacuation schools	...	2	„ „ 36 „	
L.C.C. evacuation schools	...	6	„ „ 104 „	

The use of the Baby Gas Helmet was demonstrated to 2,142 mothers.

ASSISTANCE.

Liquid milk for expectant and nursing mothers and children ...	£3367	4	2
Dried Milk ...	48	4	3
Confinement fees ...	1	10	0
Home Helps ...	37	5	0
Dentures ...	39	11	4
			<hr/>
	£3493	14	9

Cartons of Malt and Cod Liver⁷ Oil, (1lb. size containing 25 per cent. oil) costing £186, were given out; £40 2s. 0d. was recovered.

Crèches.—The two crèches are situated in Wellington Road and Manor Road. At Wellington Road the average number of children in daily attendance was 33; at Manor Road the corresponding number was 20.

Albion Hill Homes.—35 expectant mothers were admitted during the year. The number of confinements was 27; the average stay prior to confinement was 10 weeks; after confinement, 13 weeks. The cases are usually of persons who do not belong to Brighton.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Fourteen cases were notified of which seven were mild. Eleven cases were treated in hospital and two by the Queen's Nurses. One died of prematurity, but all the others recovered completely, although corneal ulceration occurred in one case.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 187.

The number of nursing homes on the register on 31st December, 1939, was as follows: Maternity Homes 6, other Homes 13, combined Maternity and other Homes 3.

All the homes are visited at least twice in the year, and the 22 on the register contained 33 beds for maternity cases and 191 beds for other cases.

An application was made for a warrant for admission to premises believed to be used as a nursing home. This was granted, and the inspection made—the premises have now been registered.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, PART VII.

The visiting of foster-children under nine years of age is done by the Health Visitors.

Number of foster-mothers on 31st December, 1939	...	...	111
" foster-children	...	...	160
Total visits paid during 1939	...	...	1197

CONTRACEPTIVE CLINIC.

As can be gathered from the statement below, a large number of the cases are recommended by general medical practitioners.

New cases treated during 1939 belonging to Brighton :—

Sent by Tuberculosis Clinic ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
" Maternity and Child Welfare Department	...	...	...	...	...	2
" General Medical Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	18
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	24

In addition 24 new cases attended from districts outside Brighton.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

STILL BIRTHS.

Up to the end of 1939, sections of the livers have been examined in 465 cases, of which 13 or 2·8 per cent. showed spirochetes.

THE BRIGHTON V.D. TREATMENT CENTRE.

New Brighton Cases treated during 1939.

Syphilis.	Gon.	Soft Sore	Sy. and S.S.	Sy. and Gon.	Gon. and S.S.	Sy., G., S.S.	Conditions other than V.D.	Total of V.D. Cases	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
21	16	76	29	2	—	4	3	—	110
				—	—	—	—	56	103
									48

Return relating to all persons who were treated at the Treatment Centre.

	Syphilis		Soft Chancere.		Gonorrhœa		Conditions other than venereal.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Number of cases on 1st January under treatment or observation	191	144	—	—	100	30	24	8
2. Number of cases removed from the register during any previous year which returned during the year under report for treatment or observation of the same infection ...	3	4	—	—	3	2	—	—
3. Number of cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report (exclusive of cases under Item 4) suffering from :—								
Syphilis, primary	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, secondary	9	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, latent in 1st year of infection ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, all later stages	23	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
,, congenital	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Soft Chancere	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhœa, 1st year of infection ...	—	—	—	—	126	47	—	—
,, later	—	—	—	—	8	10	—	—
Conditions other than venereal	—	—	—	—	—	—	200	118
4. Number of cases dealt with for the first time during the year under report known to have received treatment at other Centres for the same infection	27	25	—	—	22	6	13	6
TOTALS OF ITEMS 1, 2, 3 AND 4	... 274	201	6	1	259	95	237	132

Statement showing the services rendered at the Treatment Centre during the year, classified according to the areas in which the patients resided.

Name of County or County Borough.	Brighton.	East Sussex.	West Sussex.	Other Districts.	Total.
Number of cases in Item 3 from each area found to be suffering from :—					
Syphilis	44	20	15	2	81
Soft Chancre	2	2	3	—	7
Gonorrhœa	112	47	29	3	191
Conditions other than venereal	166	88	52	12	318
TOTAL	324	157	99	17	597

CLINICS FOR NERVOUS DISORDERS.

Drs. W. McCartan, A. W. Watt, and C. L. Hingston have kindly given me information relating to their respective clinics.

The clinic at the premises of the Guardianship Society, 3 Buckingham Place, was held on 45 occasions ; the new cases seen numbered 48 (30 males and 18 females), and there were 180 attendances.

The clinic at the Brighton Municipal Hospital was held on 50 occasions, and during that period 69 new cases (31 males and 38 females) were seen ; there were 341 attendances. The first sessions at this clinic were held in December, 1938.

At the clinics held at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Dr. Watt states that 59 new patients (9 of whom were women) were seen, and Dr. Hingston reports that she saw 151 new cases.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

In the following tables the work of the Sanitary Inspectors is stated, so far as possible in tabular form :—

Inspections for 1939.

NATURE OF INSPECTION.	Preliminary Inspection.	Re-inspection.	Total.
Houses under the Public Health Acts ...	2079	2376	4475
Houses under the Housing Acts ...	2418	1197	3615
Basements ...	304	1047	1351
Overcrowding Survey ...	373	152	525
Common Lodging Houses ...	51	—	51
Houses Let in Lodgings ...	2	—	2
Water supply ...	14	6	20
Stable premises ...	305	33	338
Cowsheds ...	248	—	248
Milkshops and dairies ...	956	126	1082
Premises where ice cream is manufactured or sold ...	839	73	912
Butchers' shops for food inspection ...	333	58	391
Abattoir for meat inspection ...	196	2	198
Markets and cold stores ...	549	9	558
Offensive trades ...	208	14	222
Food preparing premises ...	117	17	134
Knacker's Yard ...	6	—	6
Marine Stores ...	27	1	28
Tents, vans, and sheds ...	64	1	65
Schools ...	55	8	63
Animals or birds ...	78	5	83
Accumulations ...	240	155	395
Piggeries ...	140	1	141
Yards, courts, and passages ...	247	9	256
Closets (water) ...	62	6	68
„ (pails or privies) ...	29	—	29
Cesspools ...	187	5	192
Sanitary conveniences ...	469	227	696
Sewers and street gullies ...	8	—	8
Drainage defective ...	171	155	326
Drainage tested ...	13	—	13
Smoke abatement observations ...	66	—	66
Council house applications ...	515	122	637
Licensed premises ...	476	258	734
Civil defence visits ...	1130	—	1130
Fire Escapes, Sec. 60, P.H.A. ...	404	—	404
Municipal Camps ...	—	—	—
Verminous premises ...	482	175	657
Rat-infested premises or land ...	485	143	628
Rat baits laid ...	—	—	3980
Visits re Infectious Disease ...	—	—	3489
Disinfection of rooms ...	—	—	50
For removal and return of bedding (including 36 vermin infested) ...	—	—	538
Miscellaneous visits ...	—	—	3238
Interviews—Owners, Tradesmen, Contractors, etc. ...	—	—	1486

The sanitary inspections enumerated in the preceding table have been followed by the serving of the notices given in the next table. A large proportion of the work is done as a result of verbal recommendations or preliminary notices :—

	PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.				Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.	Total.		
	Warning and Verbal Notices Complied with.		Statutory Notices Served.					
	Owners.	Occupiers.	Owners.	Occupiers.				
To drain the premises into the common sewer	6	—	1	—	—	7		
To re-lay the drain	9	—	6	—	—	15		
To repair the drain	83	—	6	—	—	89		
To clear the drain	96	—	4	—	—	100		
To repair soil-pipes	9	—	1	—	—	10		
To empty or cover cesspools, etc. ...	5	—	—	—	—	5		
To provide new pans to closets	47	—	17	—	—	64		
To repair flushing apparatus	59	—	16	—	—	75		
To repair roofs, walls, seats or doors of W.C.'s	97	—	25	—	10	132		
To cleanse closets or urinals	—	16	—	2	—	18		
To pave or repave yards, sculleries or forecourts	97	—	44	—	2	143		
To remove accumulations	—	122	—	24	—	146		
To discontinue keeping animals so as to be a nuisance	—	11	—	—	—	11		
To provide new galvanized dustbins ...	164	—	53	—	—	z17		
To discontinue using ashpits and provide galvanized dustbins	3	—	—	—	—	3		
To provide a sufficient number of dustbins ...	36	—	6	—	—	42		
To repair roofs	191	—	97	—	3	291		
To hack off defective external plastering of walls and to re-render	106	—	80	—	—	186		
To render walls	14	—	5	—	4	23		
To repair walls	86	—	20	—	2	108		
To repair or provide rain water guttering and piping	133	—	61	—	4	198		
To repair defective chimneys	53	—	15	—	2	70		
To renew or repair and paint window frames and sashes	141	—	79	—	7	227		
To make windows open for ventilation ...	39	—	11	—	2	52		
To ventilate rooms	27	—	3	—	1	31		
To fix air bricks in front and back walls...	13	—	2	—	—	15		

	PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.				Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.	Total.
	Warning and Verbal Notices Complied with.	Statutory Notices Served.	Owners.	Occupiers.		
To provide sashlines	62	—	85	—	4	151
To lay new board floors and provide ventilation under same	8	—	4	—	1	13
To repair flooring of rooms and staircases, baluster rails, etc.	123	—	50	—	5	178
To renew or repair and paint doors, door frames, door sills, etc.	59	—	13	—	2	74
To repair internal plastering of walls or ceilings	285	—	107	—	7	399
To cleanse & redecorate interior of house	81	—	8	—	1	90
To cleanse rooms, bedding, etc. ...	—	56	—	16	—	72
To repair washing coppers...	33	—	18	—	1	52
To repair firegrates ...	98	—	43	—	1	142
To provide new scullery sink with lead waste pipe	37	—	21	—	—	58
To renew, repair or lengthen waste pipes of sinks ...	17	—	12	—	1	30
To trap the sink waste pipes ...	17	—	6	—	—	23
To provide a food store	20	—	—	—	—	20
To improve manure pits ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
To provide a window to staircase ...	8	—	—	—	—	8
To remedy other defects ...	231	—	29	—	1	261
No. of sewer defects found and made good	—	—	—	—	—	66

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

An occupier was prosecuted under the Housing Act for permitting two basement rooms to be overcrowded. The rooms were vacated during adjournment, and this summons was withdrawn, but later in the year the same occupier was prosecuted and fined 10/- for permitting the first-floor rooms in his house to be overcrowded.

The owner of a dwelling-house was prosecuted for using basement rooms in contravention of a Closing Order under the Housing Act. The summons was withdrawn upon the defendant undertaking not to use the rooms for habitation and to admit the Sanitary Inspector to the premises from time to time.

An application for an ejectment warrant against an owner-occupier in respect of premises for which a Demolition Order was operative was withdrawn after four adjournments, the premises being vacated before the final adjournment.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The Council are not carrying out disinfection of houses and effects by hydrocyanic acid gas owing to its dangerous properties. During the year 107 families (581 persons) were removed from Clearance areas, 65 of these families to Council houses, 42 families finding their own alternative accommodation. On the day of removal the bedding of these families was removed and subjected to steam disinfection, and then delivered to the new address. Other effects were sprayed with insecticide, and in the majority of cases tenants assisted by allowing old mattresses, pictures, and other articles of furniture suspected of harbouring vermin, to be destroyed.

During the year the houses and effects of 515 tenants (not resident in Clearance Areas) who had been granted tenancies of Council houses were inspected by the District Sanitary Inspectors. 109 houses were found to be verminous, and the bedding and furniture was dealt with by the disinfecting staff as outlined above. Council houses when vacated are examined by the Housing Manager's staff and if found to be infested with vermin, the architraves, picture rails, skirting boards, etc., are removed and the premises thoroughly sprayed with insecticide, while seats of infestation are dealt with by the petrol blow lamps. 12 Council houses found seriously infested have been fumigated satisfactorily by this Department.

The Department also fumigated 236 rooms in 51 private houses, receiving £114/7/0 in fees from the owners.

LICENSED PREMISES.

Regular inspections of licensed premises and consultations with the brewers have continued throughout the year with most satisfactory results. The installation of hot water supplies to bars has exceeded expectations, and the object of re-inspections is to ensure as far as possible that the apparatus is being used by the licensees for the cleansing of glasses. The reconstruction of premises is planned and carried out in consultation with this Department, and is generally of high quality. Up to the present there has been little difficulty in getting work done; how long it will be before the war causes any serious obstacle is, of course, problematical. The undermentioned work has been carried out during the year.

DETAILS OF WORK DONE.	NUMBER OF PREMISES.
Hot water installations provided in bars	... ... 146
Bar washups made efficient	... ... 22
Number of new water closets provided	... ... 69
Number of new urinals provided	... ... 21
Cellars repaired or cleansed	... ... 29
New beer pipes installed	... ... 9
Premises rendered entirely satisfactory (including premises re-built)	... ... 74

Number of inspections, 476. Revisits, 258. Interviews, 41.

MUNICIPAL CAMPING SITE.

I am indebted to Mr. S. Avery, the General Superintendent of the Markets and Associated Departments, who supervises the Municipal Camping Site, for the undermentioned information which indicates that the camp has continued to be popular with caravanists and campers, as in its previous initial year.

The site is situated three-quarters of a mile from the coast in a sheltered valley amidst the Downs, in the centre of which the old Sheepcote Farm has been adapted and modernised as a social centre for the campers. The large barn is now a recreation room for use during inclement weather, whilst adjoining, another large building is used for the storage of campers' kit. There are separate buildings for the men and women's conveniences, which include wash-basins, shower-baths, and water closets. The drainage system is connected to the sewer half a mile away. Water is laid on to various points, enabling caravanists to replenish water tanks. Galvanized covered dustbins and wire baskets are provided for the deposit of campers' refuse. Other amenities include a well-stocked shop, and the delivery of milk, bread, etc., daily. The normal site fees for caravans are 1/- per night or 5/- per week, plus 6d. per night or 2/- per week for each adult (children half-price).

During the season the camp was periodically inspected by the District Sanitary Inspector, but no condition arose warranting action.

No. of persons and types of vehicles, etc.	Bookings for				
	1 night.	2 nights.	3 nights.	4 nights.	5, 6, or 7 nights.
Adults	5132	1816	485	192	2933
Juniors	611	167	67	30	685
Tents	1929	697	194	76	1408
Motor Cars	1343	436	134	45	437
Combinations	252	78	12	4	55
Motor Cycles	119	33	13	1	44
Caravans or Trailers ...	114	37	17	16	319

No. of Long Term Permits granted	...	...	...	55
Maximum No. of persons employed	...	...	...	6
Total Receipts	...	...	...	£1,895

HOUSING.

NUMBER OF SEPARATE DWELLINGS COMPLETED BY THE CORPORATION DURING 1939 :—

East Moulsecoomb Estate (houses and flats) ...	104
St. John's Place	17
Manor Farm Estate	10
	—
	131
	—

The following statement shews the number of houses which the Corporation have built since the war of 1914/18 : Number completed at end of 1939.

May Road (14) ; Elm Grove (14) ; Natal Road, flats (20)	48
Moulsecoomb (including flats and shops) ...	530
Queen's Park	450
Loder Road and Balfour Road (flats) ...	56
Nesbitt Road (28) ; Hereford Street (40)	68
North Moulsecoomb (including shops) ...	394
Freshfield Road (28) ; Crescent Cottages, flats (20)	48
Whitehawk Valley (including shops) ...	1175
Bevendean (72) ; Rottingdean (32)	104
Tarner Land	110
Lavender Street (3) ; Essex Street-Montague Street flats (6)	9
Milner flats (48) ; Kingswood maisonettes and flats (59)	107
Manor Farm Estate (including shops) ...	436
East Moulsecoomb Estate (including flats) ...	530
Mount Pleasant (15) ; Ivory Place (6) ; Carden Avenue (18) ; St. John's Place (17) ...	56
Patcham (acquired by Brighton)	40
	—
	4161

The work planned but not completed included 166 houses and flats on the East Moulsecoomb Estate, 10 flats in Warwick Street, and 28 houses in Carlton Hill.

NUMBER OF HOUSES COMPLETED BY PRIVATE BUILDERS :—

	Separate dwellings.	Houses converted into Flats.			GAIN.
		HOUSES.	FLATS.	GAIN.	
1918-25	... 381	67	= 193	126	
1926-30	... 1387 (a)	42	= 115	73	
1931-35	... 3197 (b)	92	= 288	196	
1936-38	... 1807 (c)	70	= 198	128	
1939	... 385 (d)	35	= 115	80	
					—
	7157*			603	
		Total dwellings			7760
					—
		GRAND TOTAL ...	11921		—

(a) 14 of these were one-roomed flats.

(b) 205 of these were flats contained in 22 buildings and 13 were flats over 9 new shops.

(c) 256 of these were flats contained in 34 buildings and 35 were flats over 31 shops.

(d) 19 of these were flats contained in 3 buildings and 8 were flats over 6 shops.

*Total new houses, 6,607.

UNDERGROUND ROOMS.

The inspection of underground rooms under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, commenced in September, 1937, was discontinued on the outbreak of war. The undermentioned details give some indication of the work which has been carried out under the direction of two Sanitary Inspectors during the first eight months of the year. Considerable improvement has been effected in the natural lighting and ventilation of these underground dwelling rooms, whilst opportunity has been taken during the alterations to provide better cooking facilities, food storage accommodation, and improved positions for sinks and other fittings.

Number of inspections, 407. Revisits, 1,126.

Interviews with owners, agents, contractors, 420.

Parts of buildings closed, 86.

Number of persons displaced, 12.

Number of dwelling houses made fit after service of formal notices, 84.

Number of dwelling houses made fit after service of informal notices, 25.

DETAILS OF WORK DONE.	NO.	DETAILS OF WORK DONE.	NO.
New window frames fixed	121	Washing boilers repaired or renewed	35
Window frames repaired	53	New sinks fixed	46
New sash cords provided	16	Sinks fixed in new positions	22
Internal division walls removed	12	Sink waste-pipes renewed	56
Staircases repaired	24	New drain inlets provided	12
Doors repaired or renewed	86	Internal drain inlets removed	1
Cupboard alterations	33	New inspection chambers	6
Additional borrowed light to rooms	19	Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	51
Internal wall plaster repaired	180	Eaves, gutters repaired or renewed	29
Ceilings repaired or renewed	53	Water closets repaired	25
New skirting boards fixed	54	New pedestal W.C.s fixed	15
Height of rooms increased	40	Basement areas enlarged	8
Room ventilation improved	32	Yard or area paving renewed	72
Floors repaired or renewed	92	Yard or area steps repaired or renewed	13
Sub-floor ventilation provided	4	External walls repaired	55
Damp proof courses provided	7	Roofs repaired	32
New fire-ranges fixed	55	Chimney stacks repaired	4
New hearthstones fixed	36	Dustbins provided	13
Fire-ranges repaired	16	Obstructive buildings/walls removed	27
Improved cooking facilities	13	Rooms redecorated	147
New kitchens provided on ground floor	14	Rooms disinfested	16
New sculleries erected	2	Other repairs	15
New foodstores provided	54		
Bathroom alterations	5		

CLEARANCE OF UNHEALTHY DWELLINGS.

John Street (No. 1) Area.
John Street (No. 2) Area.
John Street (No. 3) Area.
Eastern Road Area.
Francis Street Area.
Lavender Street (No. 1) Area.
Lavender Street (No. 2) Area.
Mount Street (No. 2) Area.
Chapel Street Area.

Jubilee Street Area.
Albion Street (No. 2) Area.
Brunswick Row Area.
Brunswick Court Area.
Upper North Street Area.
Frederick Street Area.
Upper Gardner Street (No. 1) Area.
Upper Gardner Street (No. 2) Area.
Golden Square Area.

Inquiry by the Inspector from the Ministry of Health was held for the above areas on the 6th March, 1939. With the exception of the Upper North Street and Brunswick Court Compulsory Purchase Orders, all the Orders for the above areas have been confirmed by the Minister.

The Minister decided not to confirm the Upper North Street and Brunswick Court Compulsory Purchase Orders on the grounds that, with the exception of one property in each area, all the properties have been demolished. The sixteen confirmed areas contain 88 dwellings, and 344 persons will be displaced.

During the year 23 families were re-housed on the Manor Farm Estate, 8 on the East Moulsecoomb Estate, 13 on the St. John's Place Estate, and 21 in other Council property. In addition, 42 families found their own accommodation.

116 dwellings were demolished in Clearance Areas.

4 unhealthy dwellings, the subject of individual demolition orders, and 29 unhealthy dwellings, the subject of informal action, were also demolished.

	Total under Slum Clearance During 1939. Programme.
SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRESS.	
Number of Unfit Houses in Clearance Areas demolished	112 833
Number of Other Houses in Clearance Areas demolished	4 44
Number of Individual Unfit Houses demolished as a result of Statutory action	+ 71
Number of Individual Unfit Houses demolished as a result of Informal action	29 71
Number of Individual Unfit Houses closed but not demolished	3 5
Number of Parts of Dwelling Houses closed	86 255
Number of Dwelling Houses rendered fit for human habitation as a result of Formal Notices	276 487
Number of Dwelling Houses rendered fit for human habitation as a result of Informal Notices ...	197 1267
Number of Persons displaced from Houses in Clearance Areas	581 3831
Number of Persons displaced from Individual Unfit Houses	132 473
Number of Persons displaced from parts of Buildings closed	12 46

OVERCROWDING.

A. (1) Number of Dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	122
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	146
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	744
B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	46
C. (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	148
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	1030

**THE LOCAL ADMINISTRATION OF ACTS RELATING TO SHOPS,
FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, BAKEHOUSES, AND OUTWORKERS.**

OCCUPIED SHOPS.

There were 4041 occupied shops on the register classified for the purposes of the Shops Acts as follows :

Sale of :—

WEARING APPAREL	, including Drapers, Milliners, Furriers, Costumiers, Tailors, Hosiers, Boots and Second-hand Clothes Dealers	...	...	909
PROVISIONS	,, Grocers, Bakers, Butchers, Greengrocers, Fishmongers, Poulterers, Dairies, etc.	...	...	1376
REFRESHMENTS	,, Restaurants, Licensed Houses and Tea-rooms and Off-Licences	...	...	754
FURNITURE	,, Furniture and Antiques, Ironmongers, China, Glass and Hardware, Pictures, Frames, and Musical Instruments, Electricians and Wireless	...	...	404
OTHER ARTICLES	,, Hairdressers, Jewellers, Photographers, Chemists, Coal Merchants, Cycle and Motor Accessories, Builders' Merchants	...	...	916
	DEPARTMENTAL STORES	...	...	20
MIXED SHOPS	, including Confectioners, Tobacconists, Newsagents, Stationers, Bazaars, and Miscellaneous	...	...	887
WAREHOUSES and other business premises	...	...	...	151
				5417
UNOCCUPIED SHOPS	...	...	...	352
Total premises under the Factories Act	...	...	...	1771
,, under Shops Acts, etc.	...	...	...	4393
,, under Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	1209
Total premises	...	...	...	7373

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Factories	...	...	...	...	924
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	179
Shops	...	...	...	...	10985
(Bakehouses included above—564)	...	...	...	...	12088

Notices have been served in respect of non-compliance with the various Acts as follows :—

Sanitary defects in Shops.

Drains and sanitary conveniences unsuitable, defective or foul	34
Premises dirty or with foul accumulations	52
Premises damp, roofs leaky, or waste pipes defective ...	9
Premises without proper receptacles for trade refuse ...	45
Other nuisances	61
Notices served relating to precautions against contamination of food	31

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

To provide suitable and sufficient means of ventilation ...	11
To provide means of maintaining a reasonable temperature	187
To provide suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences ...	6
To provide suitable and sufficient means of lighting ...	8
To provide suitable and sufficient washing facilities ...	15
To provide suitable and sufficient facilities for the taking of meals	5
To provide seats for female shop assistants	12

Printed Notices and warning letters regarding breaches of the Shops Acts.

Failing to exhibit the prescribed notice <i>re</i> Assistants' Half-Holiday	43
Failing to keep a record of hours of employment of Young Persons	26
Failing to exhibit the prescribed forms under the Shops Act, 1934	71
Failing to exhibit the prescribed forms under the Shops (Sunday Trading Restriction) Act, 1936	151
Failing to comply with the Half-Holiday Closing Regulations	94

FACTORIES ACT.

Sanitary defects in Factories.

Workrooms overcrowded, badly ventilated, or in a dirty condition	92
Drains and sanitary conveniences unsuitable, defective or foul	46
Insufficient means of heating	4
Inadequate means of escape in case of fire	14
Underground Bakehouses not complying with the requirements of Section 34	27
Underground Bakehouses closed	4
Other nuisances	16

Outworkers.

Lists sent in by employers	101
„ „ from other districts	10
Number of names on lists	425
„ „ registered outworkers	227
Inspection of outworkers' rooms	17
Number of outworkers' names sent to other authorities ...	12

Drinking Water (Section 41).

8 samples of water were taken from 4 wells and as a result of the analyses the use of the water for drinking purposes was prohibited in 2 cases.

YOUNG PERSONS (EMPLOYMENT) ACT, 1938.

154 premises were visited under this Act and all those affected, with the exception of 6, elected that the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, should apply in regard to the employment of young persons.

MEAT REGULATIONS.

Warning letters <i>re</i> non-compliance with Articles 19, 20, and 21 relating to stalls, shops, and transport	11
--	----

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926, AND THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (GRADING AND MARKING) ACT, 1928.

Failing to mark imported foods :—

Written cautions and circulars	38
Verbal cautions	216

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911-1928.

5 visits were made to premises in which Rag Flock is used.

PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933.

159 visits were made to shops the occupiers of which were entered on the register as listed sellers of poisons.

THEATRES AND CINEMAS.

The ventilation of the auditorium in all places of public entertainment has been frequently checked.

PROSECUTIONS.

SHOPS (HOURS OF CLOSING) ACT, 1928.

Failing to close shop at times stated in Section 1 : one person was summoned and fined 10/-.

PETITIONS UNDER SHOPS ACTS.

SHOPS (HOURS OF CLOSING) ACT, 1928.—Orders were made in accordance with petitions presented permitting extension during the four summer months of the general closing hours in a defined central area for Booksellers, Stationers, Newsagents, Toys and Fancy Goods Dealers, Fruiterers, Florists, Greengrocers, also for the shops on the two Piers.

FOOD.**MILK SUPPLY.**

Table shewing number of persons and premises registered for the sale of milk :—

	On Register 1st January, 1939.	New regis- trations during 1939.	Removed from Register during 1939.	Total. 31st Decem- ber, 1939.
No. of dairymen	82	1	3	80
No. of dairies	118	1	5	114*
No. of cow-keepers (not selling milk by retail) ...	7	—	1	6
Persons registered for sale of milk in sealed bottles only	222	27	15	234

*This figure includes 11 cowsheds.

ACTION TAKEN AS TO TUBERCULOUS MILK AND TUBERCULOUS CATTLE.

During the year 18 samples of milk (primary) were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli and in 2 samples (11·1 per cent.) tubercle bacilli were found.

After veterinary examination of the two herds concerned, 12 further samples of milk (secondary) were taken and submitted for biological examination.

No cow affected with tubercle was found, but between the time of taking the samples and obtaining the results of their examination, two cows had been removed to a knacker's yard for slaughter.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS, 1936 AND 1938.

The undermentioned licences were issued during the year :—

	To Produce.	To Bottle.	To Retail.
Tuberculin tested milk ...	1	1	32
Accredited milk ...	6	—	5
Pasteurised milk ...	5	—	12
Supplementary Licenses :			
Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	—	—	2
Accredited Milk ...	—	—	1

Tuberculin Tested Herd.—Tuberculin tests and clinical examinations of the herd were carried out by the Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Accredited Herds.—Clinical examinations of the herds were made by the Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. No animal was found to be affected with tuberculosis.

The average number of animals comprising the six herds was : cows in milk, 213 ; dry cows, 10 ; bulls, 7.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

The following samples were submitted to bacteriological examination. Warning letters were sent in respect of all the unsatisfactory samples.

Articles Examined		Number of Samples.		
		Examined.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Tuberculin Tested milk	...	9	8	1
Accredited milk	...	7	4	3
Pasteurised milk	...	10	8	2
Pasteurised milk (Phosphates test)	...	10	9	1
Ungraded raw milk	...	3	2	1
Milk examined for pathological conditions other than tubercle	...	1	1	-
Ice cream	...	10	4	6
Mineral waters	...	11	9	2

The unsatisfactory samples were as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Failed to comply with the prescribed conditions :—

Because B/Coli present	1
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Accredited Milk.

Failed to comply with the prescribed conditions :—

(a) Decolourised before stated period	...	...	...	...	1
(b) B/Coli present	...	...	...	...	2

Pasteurised Milk.

Failed to comply by reason of high bacterial count	...	2
--	-----	---

Pasteurised Milk (Phosphates test).

One sample was found to be heated but not properly pasteurised.

Ungraded Raw Milk.

Unsatisfactory because of :—

High bacterial count and the presence of B/Coli	...	1
---	-----	---

These raw milks were judged to be satisfactory if, on examination for bacterial count, they reached the grade "A" milk standard laid down in the old regulations.

Ice Cream.

Unsatisfactory because of high bacterial count and the presence of B/Coli

...	1
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

High bacterial count, but no B/Coli found	1
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

B/Coli present	4
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

The vendors of these ice creams were specially visited and the conditions of manufacture and storage kept under observation.

Mineral Waters.

Two unsatisfactory samples were re-sampled and found to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Samples examined.

A.—From all sources.

Total samples, 94. All Formal.
Average milk fat, 3·47%.

B.—Wholesale samples in course of delivery, 23.

Average milk fat over samples examined	...	...	...	3·38%
No. of samples below standard	...	...	...	8, or 34·8%
Samples deficient in fat, 4 ; in solids not fat, 3 ; in fat and solids not fat, 1.				

C.—Retail Samples from Shops and Roundsmen, 65.

Average milk fat over samples examined	...	...	...	3·50%
No. of samples below standard	...	...	...	4, or 6·1%
Samples deficient in fat, 4.				

D.—Samples taken at Institutions and Schools, 6.

Average milk fat over samples examined	...	...	...	3·47%
No. of samples below standard	...	...	...	Nil

All samples were examined for preservatives, but in no case was preservative found.

The large percentage of "adulterated" samples in those taken from wholesale sources is due to the fact that the majority of these samples are following up low retail samples.

LEGAL ACTION TAKEN.

Legal action was taken against a producer in respect of a sample deficient in fat 4% and in solids not fat 11·6%. Owing to the absence on war service of a witness for the defence, the case was withdrawn after several adjournments.

For selling four samples of milk deficient in fat and in solids not fat, a producer was summoned. On the first summons he was fined £5, with £8/8/- costs, the remaining cases being taken into consideration.

For applying a false trade description to a bottle of milk, a retailer was summoned under the Merchandise Marks Acts. The case was dismissed.

DRUGS.

One sample of "Delax" was examined and found to be satisfactory.

MISCELLANEOUS SAMPLES.

Seventy-four miscellaneous samples were examined.

Butter	...	...	...	11	Cheddar cheese	...	...	1
Lard	...	...	...	2	Tinned peas	...	...	6
Shredded suet	...	...	...	8	Tinned fish	...	...	6
Cooking fats	...	...	...	3	Tinned soup	...	...	2
Chocolate dates	...	...	...	1	Malt vinegar	...	...	12
Chocolates	...	...	...	1	Beer	...	...	12
Mineral waters	...	...	...	9				

Three samples of malt vinegar were returned adulterated, one being deficient in Acetic Acid, the other two (these both from the same shop) being an artificial vinegar and not malt. Warning letters were sent to the vendors.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVE, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS.

Thirty-five samples of food, as under, were examined mainly for the presence of prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

Cream, dairy	...	...	11	Meat Pies	...	...	...	3
Sausages	...	...	10	Cake	...	...	...	1
Sausages, preserved	...	...	1	Ice Cream	...	...	...	11

One sample of sausages was found to contain preservatives, and no indication that the sausages were preserved was exhibited. A warning letter was sent to the vendor.

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS.

Thirteen samples of Condensed Milks were examined. No instance was noted of infringement of the Regulations. One sample was found slightly deficient in equivalent pints of milk as compared with the stated quantity. A further sample of the same brand was found genuine.

FOOD SURRENDERED FROM MARKETS AND SHOPS.

Beef, Imported	...	...	5865 lbs.	Other Cooked Meats	...	22½ lbs.
Beef, English	...	...	173 "	Sausages	...	54 "
Ox Livers	...	...	23 "	Eggs in shell	...	411 doz.
Other Ox Organs	...	...	70 "	Turkeys	...	20 carcases
Fat and Suet	...	...	290 "	Rabbits	...	105 "
Veal	...	...	20 "	Wet Fish	...	10 tons 7 cwt
Mutton and Lamb, Imported	...	...	488 "	Dried Fish	...	1 ton 19½ cwt
Mutton and Lamb, English	27	"		Shellfish, Lobsters, Prawns, and Shrimps	...	16 cwt.
Lamb and Sheep Livers	35	"		Smoked Salmon	...	7½ lbs.
Other Sheep Organs	6	"		Cod and Herring Roes	...	4½ cwt.
Pork	...	...	107 "	Lemons	...	300
Pig Organs	...	...	80 "	Yeast	...	216 lbs.
Bacon and Ham	...	...	867 "	Cheese	...	9 "
Tinned Meats	...	...	89½ "			

No unsound food was seized for condemnation by a Magistrate during the year.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cows.	Other Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (all were inspected)	1,373	3,190	6,724	21,002	14,674
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	—	5	7	66
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	156	125	22	562	1,252
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.5	3.9	0.4	2.7	9.0
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	89	39	26	—	43
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	532	340	42	—	656
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	45.2	11.9	1.0	—	4.8

A number of parts of beast livers were condemned for fluke, but only where a whole liver was condemned is the item included in the above tables.

The large percentage of pigs affected with disease other than tubercle is accounted for by the number of pigs from which the lungs or lungs and heart only were condemned for pneumonia or pleurisy.

SWINE FEVER ORDERS.

Five suspected outbreaks of swine fever were reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. After investigation by their Veterinary Officers, one case was confirmed.

Restrictions were imposed upon four further smallholdings, either because of their contiguity to infected premises, or because pigs that had been in contact with swine fever cases had been admitted to the holdings.

ANTHRAX ORDER.

One suspected case of Anthrax was reported, and after investigation the disease was found to exist. Disposal of the carcase and disinfection of the premises was carried out in accordance with the Order.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT.

Fifty-three slaughtermen were holding licences on the 31st December, 1939.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT.

Five samples of potato manure were submitted for analysis. All were satisfactory, but excesses of nitrogen or phosphoric acid were found in four of the samples beyond the stated amounts in the statutory declaration.

TABLE I.

YEAR.	REGISTERED BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		NETT DEATHS ASSIGNED TO THE DISTRICT.		Under 1 year of Age.		At all ages.	
	Population.	Nett.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Crude Rate.	
		Appropriate to the calculation of Infantile and Maternal mortality rates.								
1939	146,600 B.R. ... 152,400 D.R.	2105 2014	2475 13·74	16·24 2·094	94 45	94 45	2271 2271	14·90 14·90		

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS TO MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Brighton residents.—Live births numbered 2,365 : (1) by doctors, 215 ; (2) by midwives, 2,094 ; (3) by parents, 28 ; by (1) and (2), 23 ; by (1) and (3), 1 ; by (2) and (3), 3 ; by (1), (2), and (3), 1.

Still-births numbered 86 : (1) by doctors, 5 ; (2) by midwives, 80 ; (3) by parents, 1. (45 notifications were received only after warning letters to the parents.)

Persons from Evacuation areas.—Live births numbered 312 : in billets 14, and in hospitals 298.

Still-births numbered 5, all in hospitals.

TABLE II.

INFANT MORTALITY, 1939.—Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of Age.

Annual Report
ON THE
MEDICAL INSPECTION
AND
TREATMENT
OF
SCHOOL CHILDREN

OF THE
County Borough of Brighton
FOR THE YEAR 1939.

BY
RUTHERFORD CRAMB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
School Medical Officer,

AND
ISABELL M. G. BISSET, M.B., Ch.B.,
Acting Senior Medical Officer.

BRIGHTON :
PELL (BRIGHTON) LTD., 105 CHURCH STREET.—(05765)

SCHOOL CLINIC,
SUSSEX STREET,

BRIGHTON, 7.

MARCH, 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Children's Care Sub-Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Department for the year ending 31st December, 1939, and as recommended by the Board of Education, for reasons of economy, the Report has been curtailed and gives only the essentials.

The year under review has been an eventful one. Dr. Duncan Forbes, School Medical Officer for over 30 years, retired at the end of April. During these years the School Medical Service, wisely guided and administered by him, has gradually developed from its humble beginning, but on the foundations so soundly laid by him we see the superstructure —the service as we know it to-day.

The reception of evacuated school children and the declaration of war are events which have had marked effects on the normal work of the Department. The question of the evacuated children is dealt with in the body of the Report. The onset of war has led to several changes in the Staff as members left for Active Service, and yet, in spite of the general upset in September, the work of the Department has been carried on with the minimum of dislocation.

A general survey of the health and conditions and nutrition of the children shows that improvement is still maintained, and whilst in these times of national emergency it is necessary to carry out every possible form of economy, it is satisfactory to note that the Authorities do not advise economy at the expense of the health of the school children. No one can forecast what sacrifices may yet be called for from the manhood of the nation, and it is essential that we should see to it that those who are destined to succeed them should be kept at as physically fit a condition as possible.

In presenting this Report I should like to express my thanks to Dr. I. M. G. Bisset, Mr. D. Mackay, and the other members of the School Clinic Staff for the manner in which the strain of work was tackled by them during the reception of evacuated children in the early days of war, and for the support they have given me. Likewise I am very grateful to Mr. Toyne, Education Officer, and his staff for the great assistance rendered during these strenuous times.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RUTHERFORD CRAMB,

School Medical Officer.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Attendance of Parents	5
Children in Institutions	10
Dental Surgeons' Report	13
Defective Vision and Squint	7
Ear Diseases	7
External Eye Disease	7
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	6
Employment of School Children	11
Evacuated Children	17
Infectious Diseases	13
Inspection Clinic	6
Medical Inspection	5
Mentally Defective Children	9
Milk Clubs	11
Nursery Classes	10
Nursery School	10
Nutrition	11
Orthopaedic Treatment	8
Provision of Meals	11
Physical Training	15
Secondary Schools—Medical Inspection	15
School Nurses' Work	10
Skin Diseases	7
Speech Defects	8
Statistical Tables	20
Verminous Conditions	10 : 23

SCHOOL CLINIC STAFF ON 31st DEC., 1939.

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

RUTHERFORD CRAMB, M.B., Ch.B. (Glasg.), D.P.H., School Medical Officer.

I. M. G. BISSET, M.B., Ch.B. (Aberd.), Acting Senior Medical Officer.

D. M. LYON, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), Assistant School Medical Officer.

Mr. H. J. SEDDON, F.R.C.S., Orthopaedic Surgeon (monthly visit).

DENTAL OFFICERS.

Mr. D. MACKAY, L.D.S. (U. St. And.), Senior Dental Surgeon.

Mr. T. E. BLACK, L.D.S., R.F.P.S. (Glasg.), Assist. Dental Surgeon.
(On Active Service—see page 13)

Mr. P. J. KEANE, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Irel.), Assist. Dental Surgeon.
(On Active Service—see page 13)

Mr. R. H. THOSEBY, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), Assist. Dental Surgeon.

Mrs. N. S. WILKINSON, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), Assist. Dental Surgeon.
(From November 16th)

Mrs. M. FILLINGHAM, L.D.S. (U. Leeds), Assist. Dental Surgeon.
(From November 20th)

SCHOOL NURSES.

Miss E. KILICK.

Miss K. O'BRIEN.

Miss V. HARDY.

Miss E. MUIR.

Miss J. M. GOLDSMITH, C.S.M.M.G., Orthopaedic Nurse.

CLERICAL STAFF.

Mr. R. E. TICEHURST.

Miss V. NANSCAWEN.

Miss J. CARTER.

Dental Attendants	{ Miss D. SILVER. Miss G. JENKINS. Miss J. HAWKINS. Miss E. MARTIN.
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SPEECH THERAPISTS.

Miss S. PICK.

Miss M. COLLS.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF THE EXTENT AND SCOPE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION DURING 1939.

Population.

The population of Brighton is estimated to be 146,500 and the area is 12,565 acres.

Number of Schools.

This number is the same as in the Report for 1938.

School Accommodation and Attendance.

The total accommodation (including the Intermediate School and Warren Farm School, but excluding the "Special" School for Mental Defectives, and the Housecraft and Handicraft Centres) at the end of 1939 was 19,828, the average number on the registers for the year ended 31st March being 15,296, and the average attendance 13,731.

Co-ordination of Medical Services.

The close co-operation of the School Medical Service with the other medical services in the Borough, described in last year's Report, was fully maintained.

Routine Medical Inspection.

Medical inspection was carried out till the end of July. Following the reception of the evacuated school children, and the declaration of war, the schools were not re-opened after the summer holiday until September 18th. Medical inspection was resumed on November 1st.

3,983 children in the three Code Groups (see Table I., page 20) were inspected during the year. In addition, children found defective at a previous Medical Inspection, "Specials," i.e., children brought forward for examination at the request of the parent, or on the suggestion of the Head Teacher, irrespective of the age of the child, were examined.

The numbers inspected in the Code Groups (3,983), plus "other routine" inspections (279) give a total of 4,262. "Other inspections" (Table 1, page 20) numbered 4,716.

Attendance of Parents.

At the medical inspections, 2,552 (60 per cent.) parents attended out of 4,262 who were invited. For the previous year this percentage was 60. The interest shown by parents is welcome. With the Infants, 78 per cent. of parents attended; with the Girls, 60 per cent.; and with the Boys, 41 per cent.

The percentage of definite refusal of medical inspection was .96, represented by 41 children. The number of children absent on the day of inspection was 466.

Clinic Attendances.

During 1939 the total number of attendances at the School Clinics for all conditions was 28,967; these attendances were made by 12,275 children. (For the previous year the total number of attendances was 29,131, made by 11,984 children.)

The following table gives an analysis of the numbers attending :—

		No. of Children.	No. of Attendances.
Skin Clinic	... ... ...	2573	7875
Eye Clinic (external diseases)	...	297	858
Ear Clinic	... ... ...	434	2018
Verminous Clinic	...	641	1359
Inspection Clinic	... ... ...	1721	2332
Tonsils and Adenoids (Pre and Post Operative) and Defective Vision	...	883	1168
Refraction Clinic	...	498	943
Employment Cases	...	149	149
Theatre Licences	...	10	10
Dental Clinic	...	4654	10181
Orthopaedic Clinic (School children only)		164	1823
Others (Nutrition, etc.)	...	251	251
		12275	28967

Branch Clinics.

The Branch Clinics for Minor Ailments at Whitehawk and Moulsecoomb continue to fulfil a useful function in those two districts.

558 children making 1,409 attendances were dealt with at Moulsecoomb Branch Clinic ; and 514 children with 1,216 attendances at the Whitehawk Branch Clinic.

Inspection Clinic.

This Clinic is held on Monday and Friday afternoons as described in previous Reports, and during the year 1,721 individual children were seen, making 2,332 attendances.

Following Up.

No change has been made in our procedure, which has been described in previous reports.

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

1. Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids.

During 1939, 145 children had operative treatment ; for the previous year the number was 240. The total number of children who have received this treatment through the agency of the School Clinic is 6,821.

Post-operative Examinations.

In 1938, 240 children were operated on, and during 1939, 158 of these children came for the "year-after" examination. An analysis of the results show that, amongst other conditions :

Defective hearing was cured or improved in 20 out of 34 who had this symptom, *i.e.*, 58·8 per cent.

Otorrhoea was cured in 18 out of 34, *i.e.*, 52·9 per cent.

Enuresis was cured in 15 out of 39, *i.e.*, 38·5 per cent.

It should be noted that these percentages are based on the examination of 158 children out of the 240 operated on, who came for examination.

2. Defective Vision and Squint.

During the year, 498 children attended the Clinic for retinoscopy, making 943 attendances, and 411 had spectacles prescribed.

During the year, 341 children attended, making 429 attendances, as to the suitability of their spectacles.

3. External Eye Disease.

297 children suffering from external eye disease were treated at the Clinic (the number for the previous year being 339), and made 858 attendances. Of these children, 212 were discharged as cured.

4. Ear Diseases.

434 children suffering from ear conditions attended the Clinic for treatment, making 2,018 attendances: of these, 293 were discharged as cured.

One session per week was devoted by the Senior Medical Officer to aural examination and treatment, and each new case was seen. The "dry method" of treatment employed has been described in previous Reports and continues to give good results.

5. Skin Diseases.

An increase in the number of cases of scabies seen at the Clinic was noted. For the period January to July, 1938, 40 cases were seen, whereas in the same period in 1939, 60 were seen: the total number for 1939 being 105 cases as against 79 for 1938. This increase seems to be general, and we are of the opinion that it is probably due to re-infection in the home by other members of the family, who have not disclosed the fact that they have scabies or who do not want to have the treatment. Severe cases were sent to the Municipal Hospital for baths, the clothes and bedding being disinfected at the Sanatorium. Mild cases were given instructions as regards treatment and disinfection of clothes at home, and the bedding was removed to the Sanatorium for disinfection.

The following table shows the skin conditions treated during the year:

	Total No. of Children.	Total No. of Attendances.	Total No. of cases discharged.
Ringworm, scalp	8	113	4
" scalp and skin	—	—	—
" skin	25	90	20
Impetigo	359	1203	310
Scabies	105	384	99
Seborrhoea	4	5	4
Alopecia	3	3	2
Plantar Warts	43	43	43
Eczema	40	172	34
Septic Sores	977	3050	721
Other skin diseases	39	94	35
Other conditions—			
Cuts, abrasions, etc.	970	2718	784
Totals	2573	7875	2056

Supervision of Ringworm Contacts.

This has been continued as in previous years, and 5 first cases in families or houses were investigated. Of the 6 contacts, one of school age was found to be infected.

6. Orthopaedic Treatment.

During the year the number of new cases examined by the Orthopaedic Surgeon was 74 : the number of re-inspections was 290.

The figures for the different departments are :

School Medical Department.

Number of new cases seen	...	...	...	...	38
Number of re-inspections	...	...	...	...	143

Infant Welfare Department.

Number of new cases seen by the Surgeon	...	...	29
Number of re-inspections made by the Surgeon	...	...	72

Tuberculosis Department.

Number of new cases seen by the Surgeon	...	...	7
Number of re-inspections made by the Surgeon	...	...	50

Continuity of Treatment (over school age and not T.B.).

Number of inspections by Surgeon	25
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The total number of attendances of cases treated and kept under observation by the Orthopaedic Nurse was :

School Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	1635
Infant Welfare Children	...	...	...	...	...	...	973
Tuberculosis cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
Cases over school age (other than T.B.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	320
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	3081

Discharges.

During the year the Surgeon discharged 25 cases, either as cured or markedly improved, viz. :

School Children :—

Flat feet, 1 ; Kyphosis, 3 ; Knock-knees, 6 ; Torticollis, 1 ; Birth palsy, 1 ; Lordosis, 1 ; Osteomyelitis, 1 ; Bow-legs, 2 ; Others, 7. Total, 23.

Infant Welfare Children :—

Bow-legs, 1 ; Knock-knees, 1. Total, 2.

In-patient Treatment of Orthopaedic Cases.

The arrangements for in-patient treatment at the Country Branch of the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore, and at the Sanatorium, were continued during 1939, and 12 cases were admitted during the year for operative treatment : 4 were School children, 6 from the Infant Welfare Clinic, and 2 under the Health Committee Scheme.

7. Treatment of Speech Defects.

The work of the Speech Defects Clinic progressed satisfactorily from January, 1939, to July, 1939, but with the advent of war the Clinic was closed for four months, re-opening in December. It will be observed in the following statement that the majority of patients attending the Clinic are stammering children. As a precautionary measure, certain previously bad cases were taken under observation in December, 1939, to ascertain the effects of emotional re-actions due to war conditions.

It was observed that in a few instances, where radical war-time adjustments had ensued, e.g. evacuees billeted on the family, the calling up of a parent, etc., there had been some relapses, but it is gratifying to state that these are now largely overcome.

Some aspects of the work of this Clinic at the present time, in addition to Speech Therapy, are : (a) Rhythmic Exercises for co-ordination of muscular tenseness ; (b) the study of handedness where specific reading and spelling defects exist owing to confused laterality. Training has been given on the lines laid down by "Lee Trarris" and "Orton." (c) Retarded children are being given special private help on visual and tactile methods. (d) Groups of inhibited children have been placed in small play groups to give them an opportunity for some self-expression. (e) Frequent interviews have been arranged with parents to discuss their children's home problems and to give, where possible, advice on re-adjusting conditions.

It must be emphasized that over-crowded sleeping conditions have been important problems.

<i>Cases Treated</i> from January—December, 1939	...	...	63
<i>Cases Discharged</i> as cured, after examination by School Medical Officer	...	...	33
<i>Cases now under Treatment</i> ...	...	...	30
Number of Stammering Cases	...	...	50
Number of Undeveloped Speech	...	...	.4
Number of Dysarthric Cases (specific speech defect)	...	...	4
Number of Alexic Cases (specific reading defect)	...	...	1
Number of Malformed Palates	...	...	1
Number of Cleft Palates	...	...	2
Number of Chorea Speech Defects	...	...	1
Number of Observation Cases	...	...	15
Number of Cases referred for Physical Treatment	...	...	4
Number of Cases referred for Surgical Treatment	...	...	4
Removal from unsuitable home conditions with the aid of Children's Care Committee	...	...	1

Education of Mentally Defective Children.

This is provided for at the "Special" School, Hollingdean Road, and the Staff, and the daily routine of classes and recreations are as described in last year's Report.

Periodic visits were paid by the Senior Medical Officer : all the children were medically inspected and also examined as to mental capacity. The school was also visited by the Organizer of Physical Training. The Head Teacher and Staff are to be congratulated on their efforts and patience exhibited in bringing on most of the children in educational work, and also in developing the character of the children.

The school is certified for 70 children : at the end of the year there were 46 boys and 24 girls on the school roll.

During the year ended 31st December, 20 children were admitted (14 boys and 6 girls) : five boys and three girls, having attained the leaving age, left school, and were notified to the Mental Deficiency Act Committee : two boys and one girl left the district, and one boy was boarded-out at Eastbourne. Three boys and three girls were removed from the school, as being unable to benefit, and were notified.

Blind, Deaf, Physically Defective, and Epileptic Children.

The following list gives the number of children falling under the above classifications, maintained in residential institutions by the Education Committee during 1939, and in attendance on the 31st December, 1939 :—

Blind Children.—Brighton School for the Blind, 1 boy ; Court Grange, Abbotskerswell, 1 boy ; Barclay Home for Girls, 2 girls. *Deaf and Dumb Children.*—Brighton Institution, 5 boys, 4 girls ; Royal School, Margate, 1 boy. *Physically Defective Children.*—Lingfield Epileptic Colony, 2 boys ; Heart Home, Lancing, 1 girl ; Shaftesbury Home, Hastings, 1 boy ; Russell Cotes School for Recovery, Parkstone, 1 boy. *Total:* 12 boys, 7 girls.

During the year, children left Institutions as follows : 1 boy and 2 girls (Heart Home, Lancing) ; 1 boy (Lingfield Epileptic Colony) ; 1 girl (St. Gabriel's Home, Westgate).

Nursery School.

The Open-Air Nursery School continued its work until August, when the Staff and children went to Glyndebourne for their annual camp. At the outbreak of war they had to remain there, as their school had been taken for another purpose. 32 children were medically inspected in June, and their general health and nutrition were again found to be very good.

Nursery Classes.

Since the outbreak of war several of these classes have been discontinued as the Air Raid Shelters at these schools were not considered suitable for children of such a young age. They continue to function, however, at Sussex Street, St. John's C. of E., and Park Street Schools.

School Nurses.

The visiting of schools was carried out as in previous years. During the year the nurses made 91,446 examinations. (For 1938 this number was 73,915.)

The number of visits made by the School Nurses to school departments was 556. 510 home visits were also made for following up, etc.

The following table shows the result of their visits to the schools :—

Verminous condition of head and body	No. of Individual Children found infected.	No. of Examinations made of infected Children.
Ringworm ...	... 9	26
Impetigo ...	... 275	767
Scabies ...	... 31	96
Other conditions ...	... 276	919
	2383	10492

Of the 1,792 children found unsatisfactory, 641 warranted exclusion from school : for the previous year 639 were excluded.

The children excluded—641—attended the Clinic, making 1,359 attendances.

Prosecutions under Attendance Bye-Laws.

During 1939, 7 parents were prosecuted. Four were fined 5/- ; two were withdrawn, and one dismissed.

Milk Clubs.

There is a Milk Club in every Elementary School Department.

Nutrition of Children.

The nutrition of the school child in this area continues to show improvement, due to the increased interest of parents in the children's dietary, to dinners at the canteens, the extra amount of milk consumed in school, and the time given to physical exercises. Reference to Table II. (Nutrition) on page 20 shows that at the routine inspections in 1939 normal nutrition was present in 71·91%, slightly sub-normal nutrition in 5·96%, and bad nutrition in 0·16%. The corresponding figures for 1938 were : normal, 66·4% ; slightly sub-normal, 10·42% ; and bad, 0·33%. A nutrition survey was started during the year and takes place after each medical inspection at the schools. Head Teachers and School Nurses also send children to the School Clinic to be weighed and measured and, after examination by a Medical Officer, are recommended milk, or dinners, or both, as necessary.

Any child who has been recommended extra nourishment previously is examined each time the Medical Officer attends the school, and notes are made as to improvement, or otherwise.

The following figures, kindly supplied by the Head of the Children's Care Department, relate to the period 1st January to the 31st December, 1939 :

28,690 Dinners supplied at 4d. or 5d. each from 1st January to the 31st October ; and at 5½d. or 6½d. each from 1st November to 31st December, according to numbers attending. (Charges increased owing to rise in price of food, etc.)	... £367 9 5
223,600 one-third pints of milk supplied at ½d. (Discount is allowed by one dairy)	... ... 433 0 4
Number of children on feeding list on the 31st December, 1939	... ... ... 1190.

On the 31st December, 1939, 360 of the children recommended by the Senior Medical Officer for milk and whose parents were in a position to pay the full cost, had joined the school clubs and are not included in these figures. The corresponding number for the previous year was 298. The supply of both dinners and milk was continued throughout the year.

Employment of Children.

We are indebted to the Education Officer for the following extracts from his Report to the Education Committee, on the Employment of Children for the year ending 31st December, 1939 :—

(1) *Children coming within the Provisions of the Employment of Children Bye-Laws.*

The procedure adopted to ensure that the provisions of the bye-laws governing the employment of school children out of school hours has not been changed during the past year.

It does not seem that the "black-out" has affected, to any great extent, the number of boys being employed. It would appear that the decrease in the number of Employment Cards actually issued during the year is attributable to the fact that

there have been fewer changes of jobs by the boys themselves. It will be interesting to note whether, if the war continues, the employment of school boys will increase to minimise a possible shortage of labour.

The number of employers using child labour during the year was 330. (For the previous year the number was 376.)

An analysis of the children working before school and on Sundays is given below. The School Doctor examines each child employed before morning school to ensure that he is fit to do so :—

YEAR.	EMPLOYMENT BEFORE SCHOOL.				SUNDAY EMPLOYMENT.			
	No. Registered during the year.		No. Working at end of year.		No. Registered during the year.		No. working at end of year.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
1939	160	1	85	1	150	1	88	1
1938	170	—	75	—	165	1	73	1

During the year the Committee ordered three summonses to be applied for against newsagents, each for the same offence in employing boys before 7 a.m. on school days. The results were as follows : Fined 10s. (1), and Dismissed on payment of costs (2).

(2) Children Employed in Entertainments.

In November last a communication was received from the London County Council stating that, in view of the possibility of air raids, the "black-out," and other abnormal conditions, arising out of the war, the Council had decided that, until further notice, it would not grant licences to enable children to take part in entertainments.

During the year only 10 licences were issued to enable children to take part in entertainments, as against 31 in 1938. Of the ten licences issued, six were for one performance only, and three for Christmas entertainments, one for a child to perform in pantomime.

Only 11 children, licensed by other Authorities, visited Brighton during 1939 to appear at local places of entertainment. This number includes six London children performing in a local pantomime who were specially licensed to do so by the Board of Education.

The usual steps were taken to look after their welfare both at the theatre, their lodgings, and in regard to their education.

Juvenile Employment.

During the past year special reports and suggestions re suitable employment respecting special children were submitted in the case of 29 boys and 31 girls.

National Health Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act, 1937.

As described in last year's Report, special information is given, on request, by the Senior Medical Officer to Private Practitioners concerning children who have left school.

Co-operation with Head Teachers.

The same willing assistance and co-operation has been given by the Head Teachers and their Staffs to the School Medical Officers as heretofore, and we wish to record our appreciation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCHOOL CLOSURES.

On account of Whooping-cough.

St. Luke's Terrace Infants 22nd March, 1939, to 18th April, 1939.
 (Class III. and the Nursery Class)

135 children contacts with diphtheria in their own homes were swabbed before their return to school ; of these 10, or 7·4%, gave positive results. Forty recovered diphtheria patients were similarly swabbed immediately before the date fixed for their return to school, and 3 (7·5%) gave positive results. The number of cases of diphtheria notified in 1939 was 66, as compared with 61 in 1938.

DENTAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR.

Dental Staff.

The staff consists of four full-time dental surgeons and four dental attendants.

Several changes took place during the year : Mr. Charman took up another appointment and was succeeded by Mr. Thoseby. Mr. Keane left for service with the Royal Air Force on 5th September, and Mr. Black for service with the Army Dental Corps on November 18th. Mrs. Wilkinson and Mrs. Fillingham were appointed temporarily to fill these vacancies.

Extent of the Service.

The Dental Service operates under the direction of the Education Committee and the Health Committee. The staff are employed for seven-eights of their time on the inspection and treatment of school children ; the remainder of their time is spent on the treatment of mothers and infants (referred by the Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer) and patients in the Borough Sanatorium.

Scholarship Children.

All children awarded special places at the Secondary Schools received dental appointments, as in previous years, irrespective of the routine inspections ; 165 of these scholars made 278 attendances for treatment.

Orthodontic Treatment.

During the year, 119 cases of irregularity of the teeth were treated by extraction ; 34 temporary and 133 permanent teeth were removed for this reason. In addition, 17 deformities requiring the use of apparatus were accepted for treatment and 18 appliances were fitted to correct the irregular teeth of these patients.

X-Ray Unit.

The X-Ray unit continues to prove of great value in assisting the clinical diagnosis of dental diseases and in indicating the position of teeth in orthodontic work. 89 radiographs were taken : 64 for children and 25 for adults.

Prevalence of Decay.

82·7 per cent. of the children examined at the routine inspections were found to require treatment.

Acceptances of Treatment.

The parents of 81 per cent. of the children found to have defective teeth accepted the offer of treatment.

Inspection and Treatment.

The number of children examined in the course of the year was 6,951. The total number of patients treated was 5,142, and 10,714 attendances were made by these children.

The Dental Service in War Time.

Towards the end of August, preparations were made for the provision of a modified dental service for the benefit of school children, mothers, and infants expected from other areas. Head teachers and others concerned were notified immediately on arrival that casual dental treatment would be available as follows :

Mondays and Thursdays at 9.30 a.m. : School children evacuated from other areas. Saturdays at 9.30 a.m. : Mothers and infants under school age from other areas.

These arrangements were regarded as a temporary measure intended to serve the immediate needs of these patients until a comprehensive scheme received sanction.

The increased demands on the school dental staff resulted in a diminution in the amount of routine conservative treatment done, but the provisional arrangements outlined ensured that the normal routine work suffered a minimum of interference.

Acknowledgment.

Grateful acknowledgment is made once again to the members of the teaching profession for their valuable co-operation.

It is also a pleasure to record that the Board of Management of the Brighton and Hove Dental Hospital worked in the closest harmony with the clinic service.

Treatment for Evacuees.

488 school children, 12 mothers, and 30 infants made 599 attendances for treatment, and the following table gives some indication of the work done.

	Fillings.	Extractions.		Other Operations.	Administrations of N ₂ O.	Dentures. Part. Comp.
		Temp.	Perm.			
School Children	19	395	183	189	17	1
Mothers ...	—	—	29	23	—	—
Infants ...	2	44	—	10	—	—
	21	439	212	222	17	1 4

Statistical Table.

The statistical table (Table V.) in which all the above figures are included is set out on page 23.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

We desire to thank Mr. J. R. Watters and Miss J. B. Knight, the Organisers of Physical Training, for extracts from their Reports to the Committee, for 1939.

With the influx of 13,000 evacuees from London and Croydon early in September, immediate steps had to be taken to find some means of keeping them occupied and, in this, the playing fields offered the quickest solution.

Pending the re-opening of the schools, provision was made for all children to have the unrestricted use of the parks for either physical exercises or games. As soon as the schools had settled down and the numbers billeted in each district were known, time-tables were drawn up in collaboration with the organizers from the evacuated areas and the necessary arrangements made for all playing spaces and apparatus belonging to the Committee to be shared by our own and the visiting children during their respective "off" sessions.

Physical Exercises.

The re-organization of physical exercises at the beginning of the term was a much more difficult problem, mainly owing to lack of space. A number of schools were fortunate enough to have the use of their own premises, and in these there was no appreciable interruption in the arrangements for the subject but, in the others, the digging of trenches in the playgrounds and the requisitioning of halls for use either as classrooms or evacuation centres brought it almost to a standstill.

Despite energetic measures by the Committee to hire halls, negotiations were slow, and it was not until the term was well advanced that they were available in sufficient numbers to permit a general resumption of work.

The unusual surroundings and difficulties with shoes hampered the teachers at first, but as they became accustomed to the new conditions there were indications that the physical exercises would soon return to something approaching the normal peace-time standard.

For the benefit of senior children who, for various reasons, were unable to use their Swedish apparatus for all the lessons, two centres were equipped with apparatus from our own schools. At least another three will be equipped early in the new year by the London County Council. These centres will, as far as possible, be shared by the three Authorities.

Swimming.

After the summer holiday, swimming suffered to a greater extent than other branches of physical training owing to the necessity for limiting instruction to the "off" sessions, poor attendance, particularly among children living a long way from the baths, and to the fact that a good many of our swimming teachers were, at that time, fully occupied with billeting. In consequence there was a heavy drop in the number of children who passed the learners' tests. The actual results were 447 and 316 in the 10 and 25 yards' tests respectively.

As in physical exercises and games, the facilities were shared with the visitors.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

Routine medical inspection was carried out in the Municipal Secondary Boys' and Girls' Schools at Varndean as in previous years.

The number of pupils in attendance is : Boys' School, 566 ; Girls' School, 489.

At the medical inspection, 201 Boys and 175 Girls were given a full medical inspection, *i.e.*, 35·6 per cent. of the Secondary pupils were seen. The number of "Special" cases was 2, and the number of Re-inspections was 179—76 Boys and 103 Girls.

The following table gives the numbers inspected in the various age groups :—

Year of Birth.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	Total.
Age.	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	
Boys ...	1	70	14	4	36	74	2	201
Girls ...	3	65	5	3	25	69	5	175
Totals ...	4	135	19	7	61	143	7	376

	Special Cases.	Re-examinations.	Grand Total.
Boys	1	76	77
Girls	1	103	104
Totals... ...	2	179	181

Defective Vision and Squint :—

Defect or Disease.	NO. OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH.			
	Under the Authority's scheme.	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner, or at hospital, apart from the Authority's scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of refraction (including Squint) ...	40	—	—	40

Total number for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

- (a) Under the Authority's scheme 37
- (b) Otherwise —

Total number who obtained or received spectacles :—

- (a) Under the Authority's scheme 36
- (b) Otherwise —

Classification of the Nutrition of the Pupils inspected during the year at the Routine Inspection.

	A.	%	B.	%	C.	%	D.	%	TOTAL.
Boys	73	36·3	125	62·2	3	1·5	—	—	201
Girls	47	26·9	126	72·0	2	1·1	—	—	175
TOTAL	120	31·9	251	66·8	5	1·3	—	—	376

A.—Excellent. B.—Normal. C.—Slightly sub-normal. D.—Bad.

RECEPTION OF EVACUATED CHILDREN.

Under the Government Evacuation Scheme, Brighton was one of the largest Reception Areas in the country. Early in the year, the Ministry of Health had allocated a figure of 30,000 evacuees. This number was regarded as too high as the billeting officials estimated that there were 14,439 billets for school children and teachers, and 9,646 billets for "others"—a total of 24,085, and even this number was only obtained by straining the billeting capacity to the utmost.

Evacuation commenced on Friday, September 1st, and continued each day till Monday, September 4th. During these four days 21,410 evacuees under the Evacuation Scheme were received. Of this number 12,739 were school children and teachers (the children numbering 11,562), and 8,185 mothers and pre-school children; the remainder consisted of blind persons and expectant mothers. These evacuees were from London and Croydon.

They arrived at the Central Station, and on September 1st (the first day of evacuation), on another platform, the evacuated hospital patients (over 900 in number) from London Hospitals were also being received.

The trains conveying the children and mothers arrived according to schedule—a triumph of organisation by the Southern Railway. The General Waiting Room had been fitted out as a First Aid Post, and in attendance were Medical Officers of the School Medical Department, assisted by School Nurses and members of the Clerical staff; the School Dentists also rendered valuable assistance. From all the children received, only one casualty of a serious nature arose—a boy left the train before it was actually at a standstill and sustained head cuts. After attention he was taken to the Children's Hospital. The children were marshalled by their teachers, instructions and directions were given by the Chief Billeting Officer by loud-speaker, and in parties they proceeded to the waiting buses and were conveyed to the 13 Distributing Centres, and from these to billets.

The reception and dispersal of the evacuees from the station during the four days worked with perfect smoothness and precision, and great credit should be paid to those responsible for the arrangements. The chief objective was to get each trainload away from the station as rapidly as possible, in view of its large glass roof.

Complaints were received from householders about the condition of some of the children, and it was necessary to open 10 Treatment Centres throughout the district, where verminous conditions, impetigo, and minor ailments could be treated. The London County Council were asked to send 20 school nurses to assist in the work; 5 L.C.C. school nursing sisters eventually came. Croydon sent 2 Health Visitors, and three additional trained nurses were appointed; these nurses, assisted each by an auxiliary nurse, supervised the Treatment Centres. The number of Treatment Centres was later reduced to 8. Three nurses were also appointed to carry out cleanliness inspections in the schools when the schools were re-opened.

In the early weeks, owing to pressure of the work and the changing of staff, etc., elaborate statistics were not kept, but we have records of the attendance of 1,516 vermin-infected children, making 3,027 attendances for cleansing from the middle of October to December 31st.

The question of evacuees with scabies (itch) then arose and, with the co-operation of the Superintendent of the Baths and Markets, the Cobden Road Baths were taken over on September 8th. Patients, adults and children, on a medical certificate, attended for daily bathing and sulphur treatment, carried out by the staff and assisted by auxiliary nurses ; under-clothing, etc., was disinfected at the Sanatorium. The average number of baths given was three, and the disinfected clothing was returned after the bathing. For more severe cases of scabies and impetigo the Turner Land Nursery School was taken over as a temporary Skin Hospital, and is still in use. Up to the end of the year, 82 cases of scabies and 4 of severe impetigo were treated, 69 being discharged. On November 1st, the Cobden Road Baths were returned to their normal use ; the numbers treated there being 86 children and 13 adults, who had in all 572 baths. This treatment was then transferred to the Sanatorium, and up to the 31st December 164 children and 10 adults had received 493 baths.

Another problem which arose was the question of enuresis (bed wetting). A hostel was opened for the more severe cases amongst boys, whilst girls of this type were billeted in the Salvation Army Home. Other cases were found billets by the Guardianship Society, the householders receiving an addition to the usual billeting allowance. 120 children were dealt with in these billets. Up to the end of December, 179 cases of enuresis were notified to us.

When the schools were re-opened, attention was given to the more serious conditions, e.g. defective vision, orthopaedic conditions, etc., and arrangements made for the examination of tuberculosis contacts. The arrangements for dental treatment are embodied in the Report by the Senior Dental Surgeon and statistics given in Table V., page 23. Two children who had previously attended a school for mental defectives were admitted to the Special School.

The number of children treated for minor ailments at the School Clinic and at the Minor Ailments Clinics set up was 1,651, making 8,292 attendances. (See also Table IV., page 21.)

The chalet in the Dyke Road Park was taken over as an open air school, and children from St. Margaret's Open Air School, Westminster, use the premises.

Arrangements have been in force whereby all evacuated children can receive domiciliary treatment by medical practitioners when necessary.

The reception of such a large number of children gave cause for concern as to the probability of an increase of the more serious infectious diseases and to the possibility of epidemics. Up to the end of December, evacuated children were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital as follows : Diphtheria, 10 ; Scarlet Fever, 5 ; Whooping Cough, 15 ; Paratyphoid, 1. 1 diphtheria case died.

These figures show a fortunate state of affairs, but much work had to be done in the following up of contacts and the resources of the Health Department were fully taxed.

Arrangements are being made whereby routine medical and dental inspection, and treatment will be available, and this will be in force early in the coming year. It may be said that the general health of the evacuated

children is satisfactory, and undoubtedly many have benefited greatly from their sojourn here. For several weeks after their arrival we were favoured by warm sunny weather, and full advantage was taken of the amenities of the seaside and the Downs, and to many this was a new and pleasant experience.

Comment has been made of the tendency of large numbers of evacuated school children to drift back to their own homes. Whilst this may have occurred in some areas, it was not very evident in Brighton, as a survey towards the end of December revealed that there were 10,728 remaining; the return of children was thus well under 10 per cent.

From this short report of an outstanding event in the history of Brighton, some idea will have been gained of the enormous amount of work, organisation, and improvisation thrown on the local Services, official and voluntary. That these Services stood up to the strain was due to the enthusiasm, willingness, and team spirit which prevailed. Above all, great tribute and thanks must be paid to the householders who in such a public-spirited manner, in the National Emergency, rose to the occasion and took into their homes evacuated children, and exhibited patience until the inevitable difficulties were smoothed out, and perhaps these children, in happier days, will look back on their days of evacuation and recall that in a time of great emergency Brighton opened its doors to them and gave them sanctuary.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

Year ended 31st December, 1939.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**TABLE I.***A.—Routine Medical Inspections.*

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1452
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1199
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1332
	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3983
Number of other Routine Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	279
							Grand Total	...	4262

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections 4716

TABLE II.*Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups up to 31st August, 1939.*

Age-Groups.	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	...	1243	226	18·18	974	78·36	43	3·46	—
Second Age-group	...	959	151	15·75	733	76·43	74	7·72	1·10
Third Age-group	...	1249	381	30·50	777	62·21	88	7·05	3·24
Other Routine Inspections	...	208	46	22·12	147	70·67	13	6·25	2·96
Total	...	3659	804	21·97	2631	71·91	218	5·96	6·16

TABLE IV.**TREATMENT TABLES.**

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table VI.).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year.					
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.		Total.		Grand Total.
KIN—						
Ringworm-Scalp—						
(i) X-Ray treatment ...	...	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Other treatment ...	...	8	2	—	8	2
Ringworm, Body ...	...	25	2	—	25	2
Scabies ...	...	104	40	1	—	105
Impetigo ...	...	358	276	1	—	359
Other skin disease ...	...	29	55	10	—	39
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ...	297	95	—	—	297	95
(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.)						
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ...	433	46	1	—	434	46
MISCELLANEOUS ...	1897	1135	140	—	2037	1135
(e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)						
Total ...	3151	1651	153	—	3304	1651
						4955

(Figures in italics refer to Evacuated Children).

Group II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

	NO. OF DEFECTS DEALT WITH.				
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.		Total.	Grand Total.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	498	12	9	—	507 12
(Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the School Medical Officer's Report.)					
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	498	12	9	—	507 12
No. of children for whom spectacles were :—	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.		Total.	Grand Total.
(a) Prescribed ...	411	10	9	—	420 10
(b) Obtained ...	399	7	9	—	408 7

(Figures in italics refer to Evacuated Children).

TABLE IV.—(continued).*Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.*

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.													
Received Operative Treatment.													
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.		By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.		Total.			Received other forms of Treatment.			Total number treated.			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)									
(i) 1	(ii) 5	(iii) 139	(iv) —	(i) —	(ii) —	(iii) 6	(iv) —	(i) 1	(ii) 5	(iii) 145	(iv) —	9	160

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.
 (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

Group IV.—Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.

	Under the Authority's Scheme.			Otherwise.			Total number treated.			
	(1)	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-Residential treatment at an Orthopaedic Clinic.	(2)	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-Residential treatment at an Orthopaedic Clinic.		
Number of children treated ...	7	—	164	9	—	—	6	9	170	179

(Figures in italics refer to Evacuated Children).

TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist

(a) Routine age-groups

AGE.	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	TOTAL.
Number	230	665	761	733	668	582	449	337	243	56	4724
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	488			1739
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)											6951
(2) Number found to require treatment								488	5649	=	6137
(3) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	488	4654	=	5142
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment								533	10181	=	10714
(5) Half-days devoted to :—											
Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				28
Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				1531
							Total	...			1559
(6) Fillings :—											
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	5726	=	5745
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				92
							TOTAL	...			5837
(7) Extractions :—											
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183	1986	=	2169
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	395	7709	=	8104
							TOTAL	...			10273
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	...							17	450	=	467
(9) Other Operations :—											
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	136	1924	=	2060
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	706	=	759
							TOTAL	...			2819

(Figures in italics refer to Evacuated Children).

TABLE VI.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	3
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	...	...	91446	29430
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean							1792	963
(iv.) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	—
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—								
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws	...	...	...	...	...	7		

(Figures in italics refer to Evacuated Children).

